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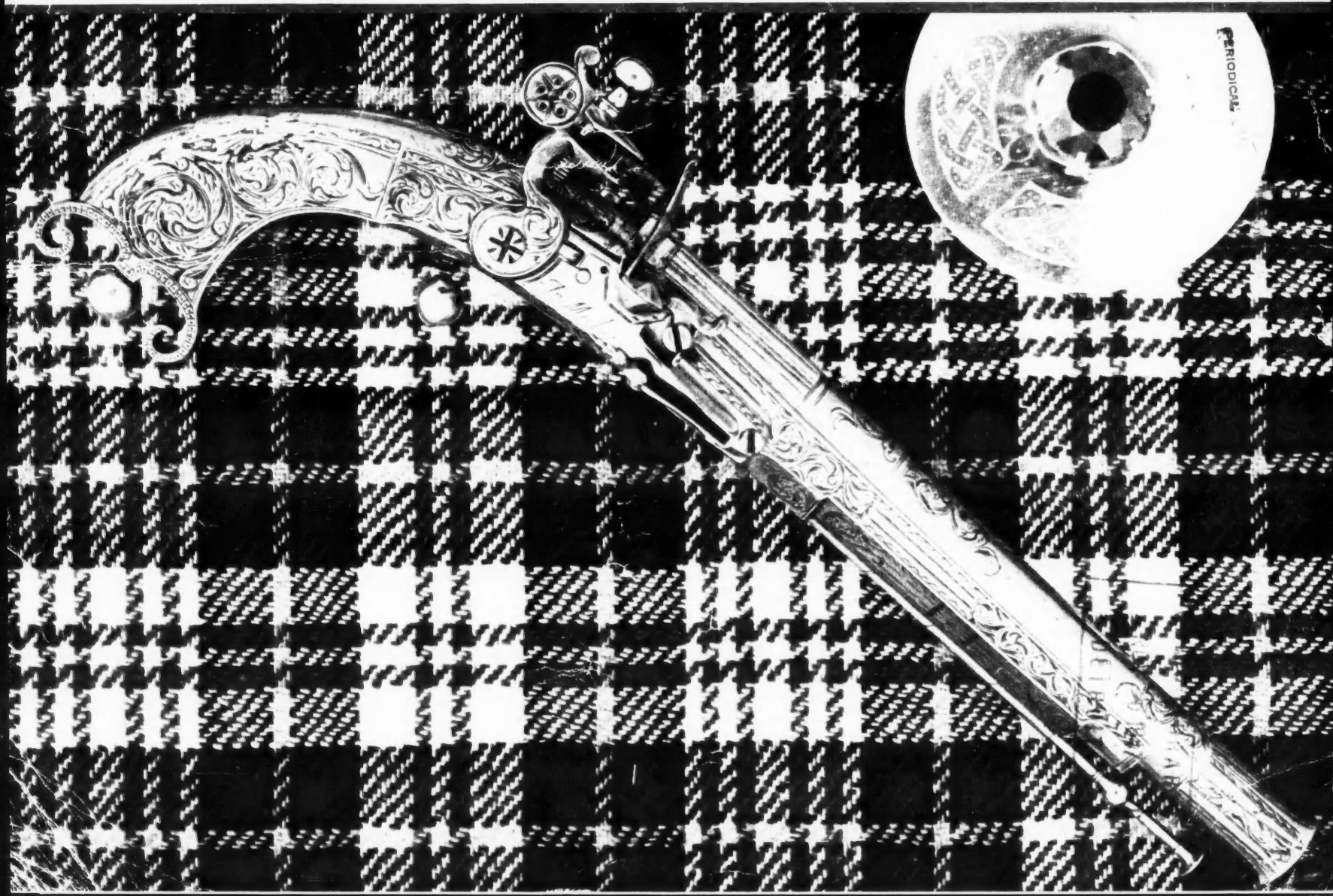

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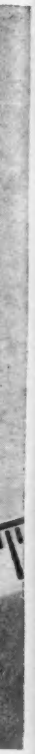

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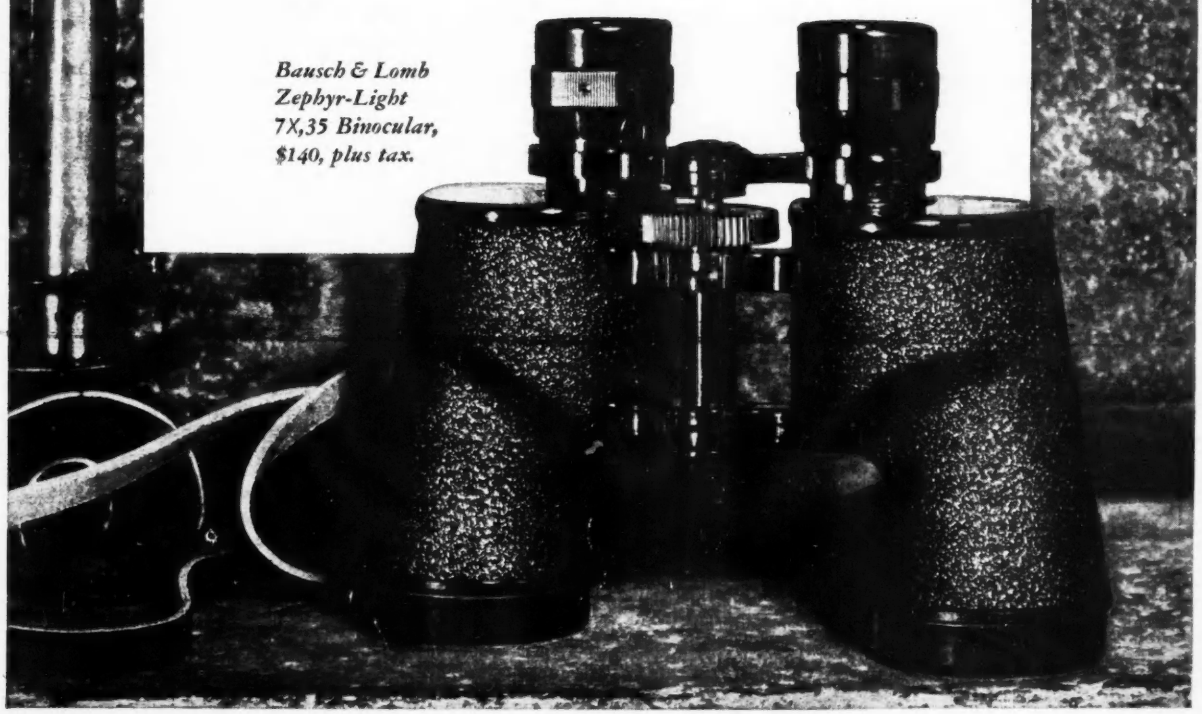

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RIFLEMAN WORDS . . . .

Each month this "lexicon for shooters" is devoted to a few words peculiar to the shooting game which may be puzzling to the newcomer. All words defined here are used in a current article.

BLOWBACK TYPE—A type of automatic action design in which the bolt or slide is not actually locked in place but held by means of a heavy spring. This spring retards the rearward movement of the slide, from gas pressure built up in the chamber, until the bullet is well on its way.

CARTRIDGE SHOULDER—Most modern cartridge cases are shaped like an ordinary round bottle having an abrupt reduction in diameter near the forward end. This abrupt step is called the shoulder. For rimless cases this shoulder is the means of preventing the cartridge from going too far into the rifle chamber.

FREE BORING—Actually reaming out the rifling just forward of the chamber to make a smooth-bore section which the bullet passes through before taking the rifling. Free boring may cover a distance of anywhere from ¼ inch up to three inches or more.

FRIZZEN—The part of a flintlock or snaphaunce against which the flint strikes. Sparks from this contact fall into the priming pan and ignite the powder charge through a small hole into the barrel.

HEAD DIAMETER—On rimless cartridge cases the diameter measurement, which is taken directly over the extraction groove or cannelure, is the same diameter as the body of the case near the head. The head of a rimmed case is larger in diameter than the body diameter just forward of the rim.

LOCKPLATE—The oblong piece of metal which supports the firing mechanism of early firearms—matchlock, wheellock, flintlock, etc.

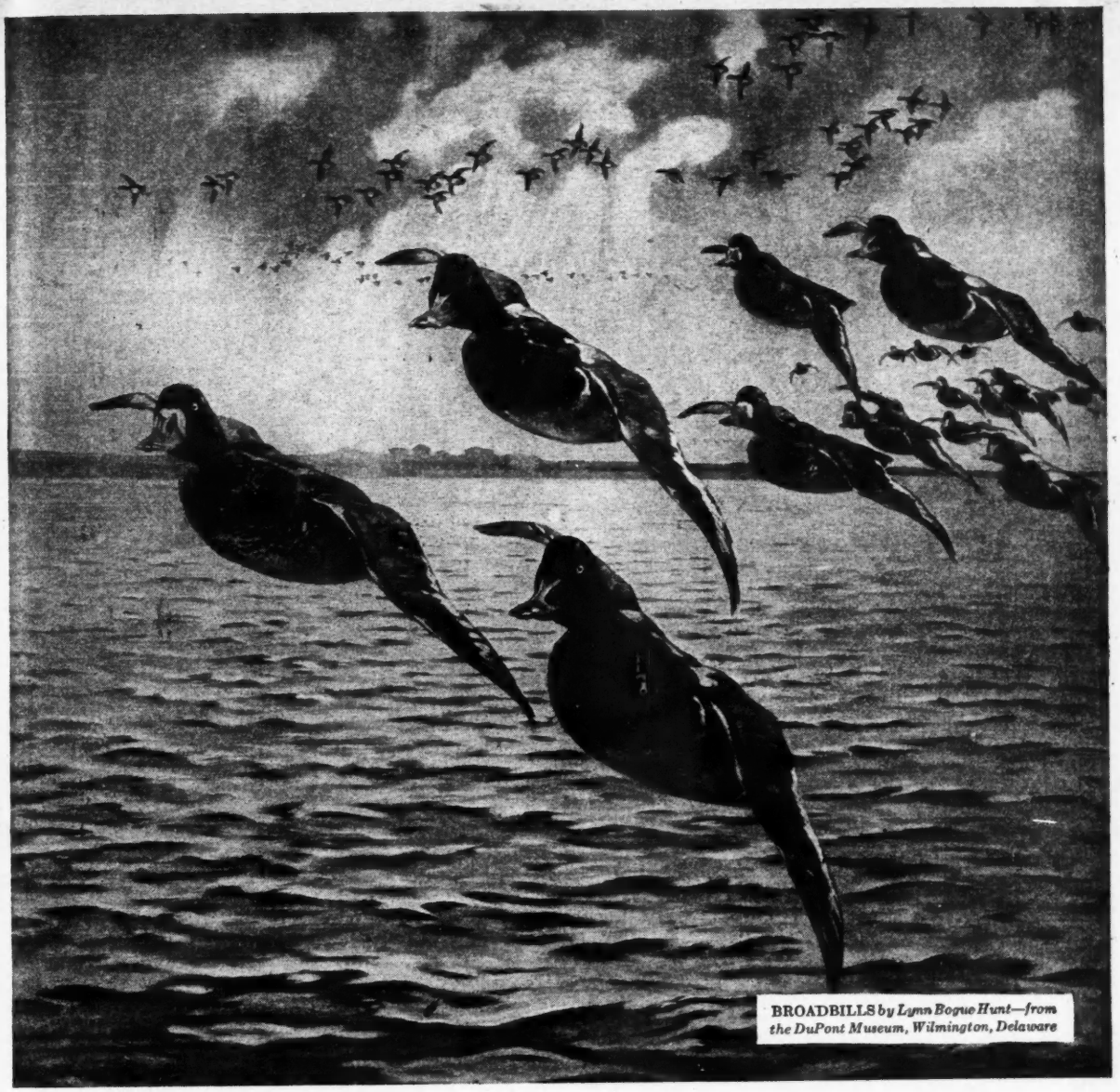
MIQUELET LOCK—A form of flintlock popular in Spain during the 18th and 19th centuries. It differs from the typical flintlock in having a hammer release which acts *through* the lockplate, instead of having all of the mechanism on the inside.

PRESSURE PEAK—The maximum chamber pressure reached by gasses which result from the ignition and burning of powder in a cartridge case or shotgun shell. In a rifle or shotgun maximum pressure normally occurs when the bullet or shot charge has moved less than ¼ of the distance through the barrel.

RECEIVER BRIDGE—In bolt-action rifles, that part of the receiver which extends over the bolt either in front of, or immediately behind, the bolt handle. Often used as a support for a telescope-sight mount.

SEMI-INLETTED STOCK—A roughly shaped gunstock in which cuts for the action and barrel have been partially made, but which must be finished to fit the individual action.

SNAPHAUNCE—A transitional form of lock, between the wheellock and true flintlock. Distinctive in having the priming-pan cover separate from the frizzen. (See FRIZZEN)



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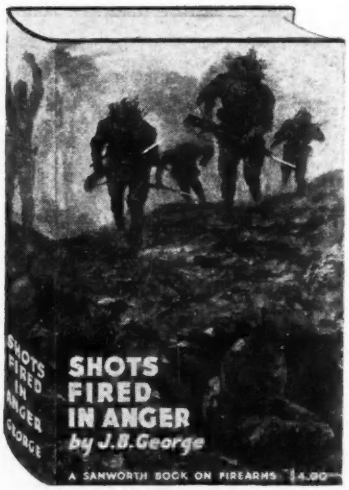

SHOTS FIRED IN ANGER

by Lt. Col. J. B. George

Now that the war is over most of us NRA rifle enthusiasts find ourselves with the same deserts as just after World War I. Very few of us got to the Front. Maybe we served out the war as Home Fronters or else got into uniform and were refused any opportunity to directly apply our knowledge of military rifle shooting.

But some few of our membership did get into the thick of it—some during the very first days of the war, acquiring a full share of Infantry combat experience—using rifles against the enemy; and of these few a smaller few lived to tell about it. Lt. Col. John B. George is among this group.

Johnny George, as an Illinois State Team member at Camp Perry, was the youngest .30 caliber champion Illinois ever had and he won many local and regional rifle competitions. As a pre-Pearl Harbor lieutenant he got into the war early with the 132nd Infantry, Americal Division, on Guadalcanal—the first Infantry Division to be used aggressively against the Axis Powers in any theatre.

SHOTS FIRED IN ANGER covers George's rifle shooting experiences and sniping ventures on Guadalcanal. Half of the text is in narrative form, giving a shot-by-shot account of his part in the Battle of Guadalcanal. He discusses riflemen training and tactics then tells the actual stories of how he and his fellow Infantrymen killed the enemy with rifles and other Infantry weapons. He makes clear the fierce pride he treasures in having been a Doughboy. George believes ardently in the traditions and alltime glory of the foot soldier—and more than ever before he believes in accurate rifle fire.

The second half of the book, entitled "The Tools Used," gives a gunnut's description of the weapons used and encountered in the field and how they performed. This presentation almost brings to life the Japanese and American weapons; George shows here that he certainly regards guns as much more than inanimate bits of metal and wood.

Every American rifleman and every National Rifle Association member should read SHOTS FIRED IN ANGER. Aside from its entertainment worth it contains much practical information valuable to the younger members of our shooting clan who may be called upon to use American military rifles in another war.

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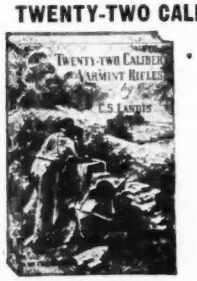

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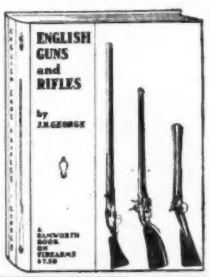

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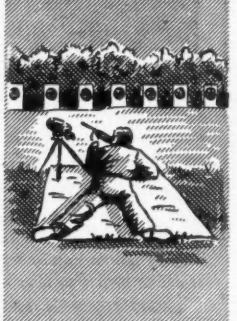

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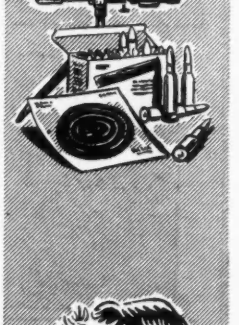

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Incidentally . . .

Looking over the articles on shooting in last month's magazines . . . *Holiday, Nation's Business, True, Fortune* . . . makes us realize more than ever that this gun game is on the upswing as something more than a sport for the few. Seeing other magazines capitalize on the tremendous reader potential among gun lovers . . . spurred, undoubtedly, by such figures as the seven million hunting licenses sold last year, and the estimated fifteen to eighteen million gun owners in the U. S. . . . knowing something of the plans other national magazines have for coverage of the postwar boom in hunting and all-round interest in firearms . . . watching the clippings roll in from literally thousands of newspapers . . . all adds up to cold, black-and-white evidence that the shooting game is appealing to a far larger percentage of sports-hungry Americans than it has for three-quarters of a century.

☆ ☆ ☆

Most of us who are interested in shooting, even among the oldest of our old timers, have forgotten that once before shooting easily held its place among the most popular of our sports . . . that once, for its brief moment of glory, target shooting was the top sport of the English-speaking world.

From *Harper's*, late in September of 1874: "No event in the sporting world has excited more general attention this season than the grand International Rifle Match at Creedmoor, Long Island, between the Irish and American teams." That year, 10,000 spectators watched a six-man American team beat the British challengers for the "championship of the world."

In 1875, Americans and Irish met again when six-man teams fired at Dollymount, outside Dublin, Ireland. In chronicling the American victory, *Harper's* (July 17, 1875) reported: "The crowd increased rapidly during the progress of the firing, and at least 20,000 people were on the ground when the shooting at 900 yards commenced." As the teams went to the 1,000 yard stage "the crowd had increased to about 30,000, and had become almost unmanageable from excitement."

Throughout the 1870's and the two decades that followed, shooting held a position as one of the leading spectator sports of the day. Currier and Ives, 'printmakers to the American people,' published a whole series of popular lithographs devoted to shooting. In at least one English event, the Queen herself fired the opening shot. On this side of the Atlantic, songs were dedicated to the victorious Yankee riflemen. Shooting, generally, enjoyed a position in the public eye which is hard to believe in these days of modest public interest in the affairs of the powder burning clan.

☆ ☆ ☆

It is unlikely that shooting in any form will ever command the interest created by those international matches of the 1870's. Shooting then did not have the competition of the modern spectator sports . . . the organized football and baseball of today. But increasingly, shooting is becoming one of the top *participation* sports of the United States . . . a sport that numbers its devotees in the millions, that extends to every social and business stratum, and to every region of the country. And increasingly, it is commanding its fair share of public interest. When the editors of *Holiday, Fortune, Nation's Business,* and *True* (who, collectively, must 'feel the pulse' of about eight million readers) decide that gun lore is sufficiently general a subject to warrant this kind of feature coverage, shooting is on its way. The shooters of America (and the editors who cater to them) are suddenly realizing that the brotherhood of gun nuts is a lot bigger group than they had realized. If you ever wonder about it yourself . . . or need a figure to convince someone else that shooting is everybody's sport . . . remember this one: There are more rifle ranges in the United States today than golf courses. Maybe shooting hasn't slipped too far from the palmy days of 1875 after all!—J. S.

COVER

Third in THE RIFLEMAN'S series of fine firearms . . . a Scottish flintlock in the NRA collection. It was made by James Michie of Doune, about 1750. Interestingly, it is probably one of these all-metal Highlanders that fired the "shot heard 'round the world." Major Pitcairn, whose shots precipitated the battle on Lexington Common, carried a pair of similar pistols, which are still preserved in the Museum at Lexington.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, 1600 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. DOMESTIC RATES (NORTH, SOUTH, AND CENTRAL AMERICA) $3.00 A YEAR, $5.00 FOR TWO YEARS; ELSEWHERE, $3.60 A YEAR, $6.50 FOR TWO YEARS. ENTERED AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER, APRIL 1, 1908, AT THE POST OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D. C., UNDER ACT OF MARCH 3, 1879.

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FOR CHANGE OF ADDRESS, GIVE BOTH NEW AND OLD ADDRESS AS THE LATTER APPEARS ON ADDRESS LABEL.

The AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

Official Journal of the National Rifle Association of America

VOLUME 95 NUMBER 11

NOVEMBER 1947

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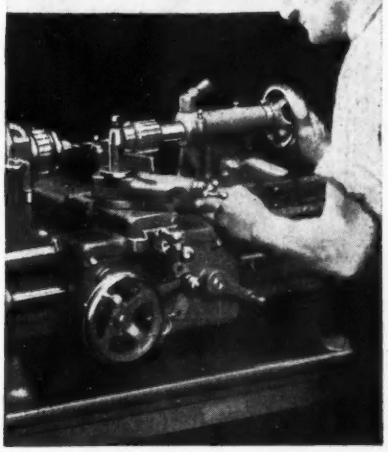
The Choice of Expert Gunsmiths



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"It Is Good—

For a Free America"

THERE WILL be many editorials written and many sermons delivered during the next few weeks on the subject of America's reasons for thanksgiving. To each writer and each speaker there will appear some particular reason for the call to Thanksgiving. Because to every segment of our society there have come advantages and opportunities of particular benefit and particular appeal. Despite our "intramural" battles, America is well-to-do among the nations of the world—and the average American knows it, though he continues his traditional "beefing."

But with all the writing and all the speaking there will be nothing said, save these few words, about *one* thing for which America might well give thanks. It is a thing at once tangible and intangible. Scarcely known to the average American, it is rarely thought of as something for which to be thankful, even by those who are a part of it.

It has contributed much in a material way to keeping the boots of invaders from treading in the living rooms of American homes. It has helped to make possible quick aid to hard-pressed democracies across the seas. It has made American communities better places to live for reputable folk and less desirable places for the thug to ply his trade. It has kept the shadow of tragedy from many an American fireside. It has brought good fellowship and the joy of keen, sportsmanlike competition to Americans of all ages. It has provided the physically underprivileged a chance to enrich their confidence by battling it out shoulder-to-shoulder with their more rugged brethren and emerging victorious.

In its tangible form, it is the National Rifle Association of America. Its intangible form is the ideal of service to the Nation, the community, and the individual which motivates and guides its work.

By keeping alive and expanding the American tradition of individual marksmanship and by defeating the attempts at Gestapo-like control of sporting weapons which would strangle that tradition, the NRA has played its part in making possible the maintenance of the American small arms industry which, for three generations, has provided the "arsenal of democracy." The sale and issue of small arms and ammunition to civilian rifle clubs and the National Matches have often in peace time been the only means for holding together at Government arsenals the men with the "know-how" so critically needed in war time.

It was the NRA which initiated, twenty-five years ago, the program of police marksmanship training now spread over the Nation.

It was the NRA which first undertook a nation-wide gun safety campaign based on fact instead of guesses—a campaign which has done much to correct the public misapprehension regarding the dangers of hunting and target shooting while educating shooters to safer gun handling methods.

Through its junior program the NRA has created tens of thousands of new shooters, has proven that a boy and a gun need not be a dangerous combination and has saved uncounted homes from tragedy. It has proven, too, that the rifle can be a powerful aid in reducing juvenile delinquency.

President Truman has said: "I hope that the splendid program which the National Rifle Association has followed during the past three-quarters of a century will be continued. It is a program which is good for a free America."

So, as shooters, we can approach the Thanksgiving season with our own particular note of thanksgiving. We will be unmentioned in sermon and editorial, but we have the satisfaction of knowing that the Nation has much for which to thank us. Throughout America there are many fathers and mothers, policemen, veterans, and youngsters who *do* thank us for the job accomplished and the work under way.—C. B. L.

"BLONDE MAGIC" WAS RARIN' TO GO . . . AND 3½ YEARS IN A JAP CONCENTRATION CAMP HAD WHETTED THE AUTHOR'S APPETITE FOR THAT DREAM TRIP INTO THE CANADIAN WILDS

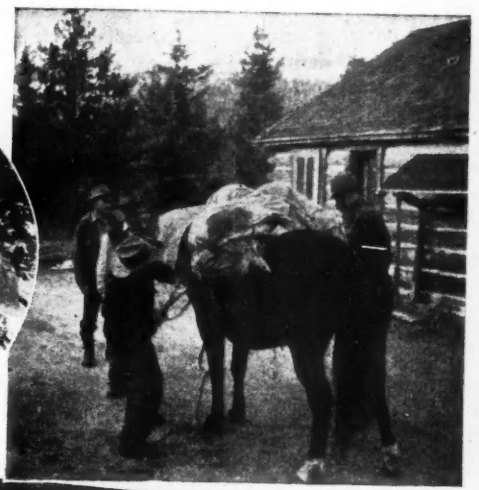
TARGET ACCURACY IN THE HUNTING FIELD

By LT. COL. EUGENE S. HICKER

OKAY, THERE AIN'T no such! But don't think you can't approach it. Imagine the ultimate in long-range accuracy and power—the .300 Magnum bull guns that took the Wimbledon from 1935 to 1940 inclusive, with possibles and 16 to 27 straight V's. We can't all steer one like Jim Crow or Alfred Wolters, but think of the supreme confidence a hunter would have if he knew his outfit was good for a twenty-inch circle up to a thousand yards. I know. I slapped down a bull elk with a head shot at three hundred yards using my old Wimbledon outfit, target glass and all. Not that I recommend it. But I was young and strong and foolish then, and had loaned my sporter to a partner.

Compromise! Imagine the other extreme —a short barreled, six-pound rifle capable of a ten-inch group at one hundred yards, and still able to toss a deadly slug within the circumference of a small wash tub at its extreme range of three hundred yards. Handy, light, and fast, with open sights, and a smooth, fast action. Able to stand a few knocks, too.

Then imagine "Blond Magic" . . . not the highest-priced rifle in the world, but one that won't take a back seat to

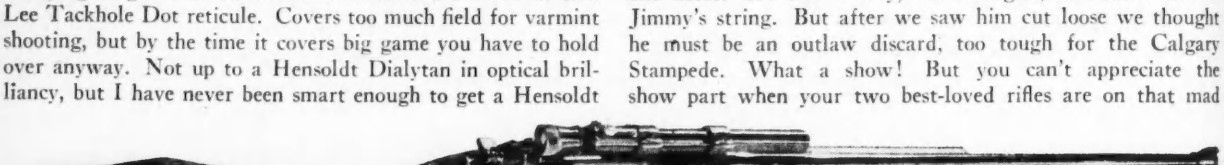


Photographs by Col. W. D. Frazer

"GENE" HICKER is back at his Regular Army duties, after spending 3½ war years in Japanese prison camps. He was captured on Bataan, and is a survivor of the "Death March." Gene is well known among Pacific Coast riflemen, and has won both the Washington State and Northwest .30 caliber titles with alarming regularity. He is assigned now in Washington, D. C., where he serves, appropriately enough, as Assistant Director of Civilian Marksmanship.

any in the woods. A Springfield .30-'06 sporter made from odd junk parts my shooting partner, Frank Jury, picked up for me when I first came back from the war. An unusual barrel—one three-inch five-shot group at two hundred yards —another two-and-three-eighths. A well-worn, low-numbered National Match bolt, slick as red Texas gumbo before they made the good roads down there. I had interchanged bolt and sear parts until the trigger broke and yielded as decisively as a young girl's heart when the right guy comes along. Twenty-year-old seasoned myrtle-wood stock, straight-grained along the barrel and magazine well, then flame-grained around a small knot in the middle of the cheek-piece. Stock straight with a high comb, built heavy along the magazine well and pistol grip, where many hunting rifle stocks have broken . . . more about that later. Inletted with a mother's loving care by Henry Wright and me working twice until two o'clock in the morning with no company other than a whisky bottle. So tight a fit I can throw the guard screws away and still shoot a group, only I'm not going to do it.

Fastest sight in the world—a Weaver one-power shotgun sight, lying right down on the receiver. It gives you practically unlimited eye relief, and is too light to shoot loose in its clamping rings. The outfit has never shifted zero in its life. Lee Tackhole Dot reticule. Covers too much field for varmint shooting, but by the time it covers big game you have to hold over anyway. Not up to a Hensoldt Dialytan in optical brilliancy, but I have never been smart enough to get a Hensoldt back far enough to see without mounting it too high. You can't have everything—my outfit groups and holds its normal, and is clear and fast.



"Blonde Magic," in all her glory!

Or imagine Colonel W. D. Frazer's two beautiful .30-'06 sporters. Exquisite custom-built light weight walnut stocks. One a Springfield and the other a light-weight Sauer Mauser. Lyman Alaskan scope on the Springfield; Noske on the Sauer. Those rifles made four- and five-inch groups respectively at two hundred yards over the dead rest the same day we tested "Blondie". Both of these rifles had held their zero for over a year, and Colonel Frazer made only the finest of adjustments.

In our repeated trials for a period of two weeks before our hunting trip, Colonel Frazer and I had kept those rifles shooting within two minutes of angle with no further sight adjustments. Our rifles didn't care whether we were shooting offhand or prone, using sling tension or not, what kind of day it was, or even whether I had been out late the night before. Life is too short and hunting trips too expensive to keep a cranky rifle. If Blondie hadn't turned out to be a top rifle I'd still be working her over, or probably would have peddled her, and started with a new set of parts. But I was lucky, and had the genius of Henry Wright to help me on the inletting, and I don't know of anyone who can measure closer than Henry unless it should be L. E. Wilson, up at Cashmere, Washington.

I had saved up money in spite of myself when I was a prisoner of war with the Japs, and had dreamed of a big hunting trip (along with a roast duck dinner, or even an extra bowl of rice), and I didn't want to leave anything to chance. I certainly didn't in the choice of my hunting partner, Colonel William D. Frazer. Besides being one of the greatest of the Camp Perry riflemen, he has killed game from the tamarao of Mindonao to the bear of Kodiak. He is no kid anymore, but if you can find a cooler head to make a "money" shot in the hunting field, I want to shake your man by the hand. Frazer is a great rifleman. And Frazer knew two important things about our trip that I didn't—where to go and with whom. He chose James Simpson, Jr., and we went northeast of Banff.

We had to ride three days with the pack string before we got out of Banff Park into our hunting country. Jimmy had a high class outfit, another fine guide (Ernie Young), a good cook (Roy Thatcher), and Bill, who was a much finer singer than he was a horse-wrangler.

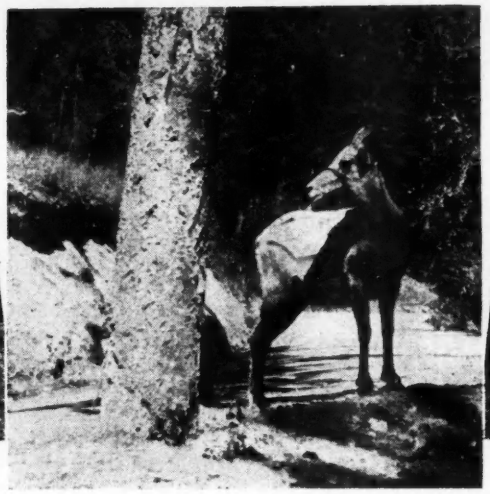
We made a bad mistake our second day out—made it the first day, too, but it wasn't a mistake then—we got away with it. I blame us all equally—Jimmy, Ernie, Colonel Frazer, and myself. Both of Colonel Frazer's rifles were packed on one horse. He was Wicky, the strongest, steadiest horse in Jimmy's string. But after we saw him cut loose we thought he must be an outlaw discard, too tough for the Calgary Stampede. What a show! But you can't appreciate the show part when your two best-loved rifles are on that mad beast's back. Frazer really took a beating that afternoon, but he took it like a man.

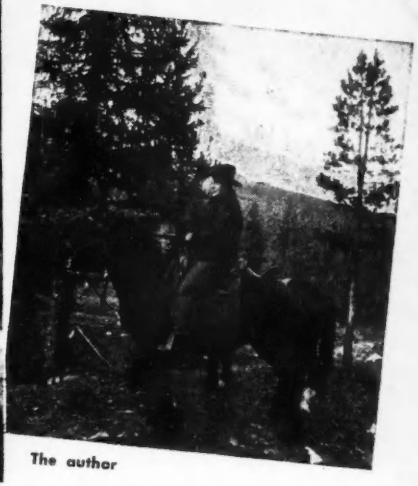
My wife June and I saw a pack horse go berserk on a trip in Idaho once, but Wes McKinney's hard-boiled wrangler rode it down, and cussed it back into submission.

Don't think Ernie Young didn't beat on his white horse, or Jimmy jump his thoroughbred over the logs, but Wicky could handle himself just as fast as any cow horse or thoroughbred in that wild, steep, wooded, rocky country.

What started that horse? Ernie thinks hornets, but we never saw any and they were supposed to have quieted down for the winter. The Colonel and I suggested the pack was loose and rubbing him tortuously, but Ernie and Jim were sure that they had watched the packs too carefully even if they had not done a perfect job that morning. I suggested bears, but there was no evidence. Wicky was no natural outlaw—he proved it the rest of the trip. Gentle, powerful, willing—he was the pick of Jimmy's string, except for his

Looking for sheep





The author

bad moment. I don't know—some women are like that, too.

Anyway, the first thing we knew Ernie hollered, and Wicky came through the brush on the dead run along the right-hand side of the trail past me, the Colonel, and Jimmy in the lead. He was kicking and snorting and beating the remains of his pack on every big tree he dashed by. He even rolled on his back and kicked his feet in the air and snorted. I hollered and swore and rode after him, but I don't handle a horse any better than I dance the rhumba, and the last I saw of Wicky, Jimmy and Ernie nearly had him cornered as they galloped out of sight. They caught him, too, but only after his pack saddle was broken and lost, and his pack scattered willy-nilly over two city blocks of Canadian bush. Within an hour the six of us had found all the pieces. Col. Frazer's favorite Springfield—the great rifle he had hunted with in nearly every part of the world—was a piece of kindling wood. His Sauer Mauser was still in one piece, a bad crack in the small of the stock, the front sight broken off, and a few more deep nicks and scratches.

We wired the cracked stock, wrapped tape over the wire, and tested the rifle. Fortunately Colonel Frazer had an "invention"—a stout, wooden box in which he packed his special valuables. His Alaskan and Noske glasses and his Zeiss camera were in that box, packed like mother-in-laws pack Wedgewood China. The box was on Wicky's back, too, but it rode the storm unscathed. Before we started on our trip, I was inclined to have my tongue in my cheek when Colonel Frazer suggested I make a box like that, but now I think I'll build one.

So we tested his rifle with the Noske glass, and it shot in the same old groove, although he again made a minor adjustment. A disciple of extreme accuracy, the Colonel!

Then we packed in another day and camped. Frazer carried his Sauer in a saddle holster. I left my rifle packed among the soft sleeping bags on Peggy, a mare that stepped like a tomcat sneaking up on something, and Ernie or Roy carefully led Peggy through the rest of the trip.

Day number four—the first day of hunting. Four inches of snow had fallen. We were camped at the timber line. We had already seen elk, deer, moose, and goat, but we had our minds on sheep. We ate at dawn while Jimmy went up high to scout the country. He came back excited, even for a veteran guide. He had spotted a grizzly. We got excited, too, and took off up the trail, with intent to murder that poor bear. After four or five minutes I got tired first and looked around. I knew what it was all right, but I was with three old timers so I said, "What's that over there?" "Why, that's a bull moose", they answered. He was sideways one hundred and twenty-five yards away, and almost hidden by the early morning shadows in the trees. I sat down and put a hasty sling on my arm.

"He's only a medium head," Jimmy said, looking through his Zeiss binoculars.

"Well, we need a little camp meat, don't we?" I said.

While we were talking things over the dot of the reticule paused for a moment where I thought the moose's heart ought to be, and Blondie responded with a loud boom and an unnoticed recoil.

I took the rifle off my shoulder, and the moose walked out of sight a little way in the woods. I'll always know in my heart that the others thought I had missed that moose, but I knew I hadn't and started through the snow-covered bushes and waded the creek to where he had been. Ernie was with me. We found the moose twenty feet from where he was hit. He was just an ordinary, fair-sized bull, but he looked like a magnificent beast to me. After all, he was the first moose I had ever seen when I had a license and a weapon with me, and Blonde Magic had performed perfectly on her first try at big game.

On the way back to camp to send Ernie a pack horse I noticed three goats

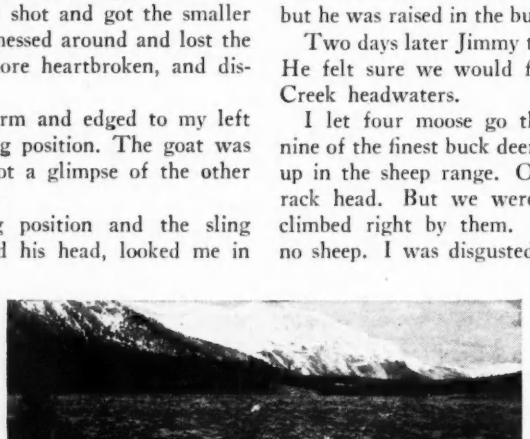
about 1500 feet above me. I continued to camp, broke out my 20X spotting scope, and Roy and Bill and I studied them. They were billies all right, and they looked like beauties to me. One of the two lower ones was much the larger. Roy, the cook, decided to double as guide. We studied the wind and the contour of the mountainside and started on a zigzag climb.

I have to give Roy a top grade as a guide. Our stalk was perfect. We were 100 yards from a sharp corner of rock around which the goats had been. A stiff breeze was blowing in our faces. But there was a steep snow-covered rock slide, and I was wearing caulked boots instead of hobnails. "Corks" are great in their place, but snow and rock are not the place.

So I took them off. Socks, too, to keep them dry. It was cold, but only a cat could have crossed that slide more quietly than I. When you are barefoot you don't roll loose rocks down into the valleys—you watch where you put your little feet. I reached the rock corner and peeked around. Fifty yards away was one goat faced directly towards me, but with no idea of danger. He looked like a beauty to me, but I just had to see the other one. If I shot and got the smaller one I would be heart-broken. If I messed around and lost the chance entirely I would be still more heartbroken, and disgraced.

I slapped a hasty sling on my arm and edged to my left for five yards more in a half-sitting position. The goat was still grazing peacefully. Then I got a glimpse of the other billy and he was definitely smaller.

I leaned forward into shooting position and the sling tightened. Goat number one raised his head, looked me in the eye, and paused. Blondie boomed and I made a heart shot from the front.



The goat fell and lay perfectly still. Roy came up (with my boots) and we watched the other two goats scamper up the mountain side, poised and at ease. But just try to keep up with one.

Either complete relaxation or a last nervous spasm started our goat rolling down the mountain. Not very fast, but Roy couldn't catch it. (I was putting my boots back on.) I said goodbye to those horns when it rolled into a rocky creek bed a thousand feet below us. However, luck was with us. We found the horns unbroken (and two-thirds of the way back to camp). They measured 9½ inches.

Then we heard two shots about four seconds apart from the slopes on the far side of the valley, and I suddenly remembered the grizzly.

"Colonel Frazer got that bear," I told Roy.

He had. Fifty yards, offhand. He took off the top half of the bear's heart with his first shot, using 150-grain Peters pointed wedge-type bullets. His second shot was only a precautionary one at Jimmy's urging. After all, a magnificent grizzly at fifty yards is nothing to take chances with.

Moose, goat, and grizzly. What a day!

On the fifth day we turned our attention to sheep. Jimmy found a band of twelve about noon. From a mile away we studied them with our spotting scopes. Three were rams, but Jimmy didn't think they were good enough for us. Colonel Frazer and I had a talk about "taking the cash, and letting the credit go." Also, the climb looked easier than we might ever get again so he and Ernie decided to have a closer look.

They did, and after a very careful stalk bagged the sheep. The gully was quite open and flat, and I give the Colonel every credit for crawling on his belly to within two hundred yards of the largest ram, and for making two difficult killing shots with the damaged rifle.

Jim and I took a hard, steep climb for the next five hours. He showed me where his last dude had killed a fine thirty-nine inch sheep, but we didn't see any for ourselves.

I was tired that night and for many nights to come. Jimmy is the fastest hiker in that country and he takes great pride in it. But then he plays professional hockey all winter, and rides the rodeos in the summer. He is young for a guide, but he was raised in the business and in that particular country.

Two days later Jimmy took a long circle in the high country. He felt sure we would find the big rams around the Scalp Creek headwaters.

I let four moose go that afternoon. I could have killed nine of the finest buck deer I ever hope to see. They were high up in the sheep range. One especially had a monstrous, hat-rack head. But we were obsessed by sheep fever, and we climbed right by them. There were more goats again but no sheep. I was disgusted by now that I had sneaked up on that goat barefooted. By the seventeenth day I had seen over a hundred goats, and could have slaughtered thirty billys from one to two hundred yards away.

Colonel Frazer made a difficult climb and hit his goat in the heart at a hundred yards. He was overjoyed about the performance of his 150-grain bullets. I ribbed him about taking two shots, but I should have kept quiet. Didn't he have five hits in five shots, and a grizzly, a goat, and a sheep already?

We moved camp and tried new gullies, but had only the same hard climbs.

The last day came and time to start back. I was running out of hope.

"We're not licked yet," Jimmy said. "We'll take an extra day and try a new place. It's only a little out of our way going home."

We started before daylight and Jim told me, "We are going to a pet place of my father's—our ace in the hole. He told me if I got stuck to bring you up here."

We climbed steadily for fifteen hundred feet, and were close to the gully Jim's father had in mind. It may have been full of sheep—we'll never know. Jim spotted two good-sized rams across the valley a mile away. *(Continued on page 20)*

Making A Gunstock

PART ONE: DESIGN

By O. V. STEPHENS, JR.

WITH THE ACCURATE and highly efficient design and production methods employed by firearms manufacturers today, the question is often asked, "Why make a gunstock?" The answer comes from the hundreds of gun enthusiasts working in home workshops to produce a functionally perfect gunstock which fits their personal needs and ideas.

Firearms manufacturers can only establish dimension, design, wood, and accuracy standards which are the most profitable for production and which satisfy the *majority* of customers. But in a home workshop, with a few common hand tools, a gunstock of beauty and utility may be made according to any dimensions and design, and with any wood the maker desires.

Many persons—even those who are well acquainted with rifles—do not realize how the stock affects the shooting accuracy of a rifle. A rifle stock is not only an attachment which provides a comfortable means for holding the rifle barrel and action. It is also the foundation upon which the barrel and action are assembled. When a rifle is fired, vibrations are set up in the barrel. The stock should be inletted (the wood removed from the stock to provide a place for the metal parts) in such a way that these vibrations are kept as near the same as possible for each shot fired. If the stock exerts a different pressure on the barrel during the firing of shots; if the metal parts fit loosely in the stock; or if the metal parts and the stock bind, the barrel vibrations will be different for each shot.

To say that the stock should be properly inletted is not conclusive. Unlike a building engineer, a gunstocker has no formulas or books of standards by which to make his foundation. Each barrel and action will have its own characteristics and present problems which sometimes can be solved only by experiment. As previously stated, barrel vibrations should be as near the same as possible for each shot that is fired. However, this does not mean that just any vibrations are satisfactory. There are certain barrel vibrations which will give a specific rifle its maximum accuracy (assuming the other factors of accuracy such as ammunition, sights, et cetera, to be properly functioning). The stock must be inletted to produce and to maintain the vibrations which will give maximum accuracy.

The two widely accepted ways of inletting the stock for best shooting accuracy are: (1) Inletting for a free-floating barrel, and (2) inletting so that all metal parts are fully bedded. With the free-floating barrel inletting, the barrel does not touch the wood any place. With the fully-bedded type of inletting, the barrel fits snugly in the wood.

The type of inletting which will give the rifle its maximum accuracy cannot be readily determined. Usually, heavy-barreled rifles are most satisfactory with their barrels free-floating, and light-barreled rifles are most satisfactory with their barrels fully bedded. This cannot be accepted as a rule, however, as can be seen by noting the experiences and experiments of Alvin Linden and Morgan Holmes.[1]

Not knowing which type of inletting will produce maximum accuracy, one should first fully bed all metal parts into the wood. If the rifle does not give reasonable accuracy, the pressure of the wood on the barrel should be relieved by alternately removing small amounts of wood from the barrel groove and test-firing the rifle until the desired accuracy is obtained. In many cases, so much wood has to be removed from the barrel groove that the barrel is left completely free-floating. The time spent in fully bedding the barrel and then possibly making it free-floating to obtain accuracy is negligible compared with the time wasted in making a stock which causes scattered shots.

In this discussion, the processes for inletting, shaping, and finishing a Mannlicher-type stock are used. The action is a Mauser Model 98 action. The processes are a collection of those the author believes to be the best of some of America's gunstockers, and the processes may be applied to sporter-type stocks for actions of the Enfield, Springfield, and Winchester Model 70 rifles. Many of the processes are those which were used by the late Alvin Linden.[2] The stock design is based upon Morgan Holmes' rules for good stock design.[3]

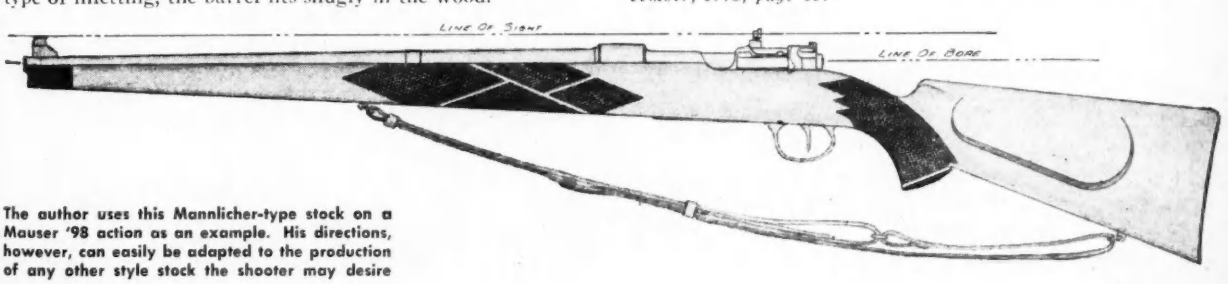
The importance of rifle stock design is readily seen if the rifle is to fit the shooter comfortably, to have appealing lines, and to be a firearm of beauty. However, it is not easy for the stockmaker to combine all his ideas of how a stock should look into one "super" stock, and he is seldom able to determine why the finished stock does not meet his expectations. Often he does not know exactly what design he desires.

For an appealing stock, the outlines should be straight lines and parts of circles where possible. Bulges and sags, as found in the bottom lines of the forearm and buttstock of many rifles, are avoided. The top line of the comb undercut and the

[1] *Linden, Firearm Design and Assembly, 1, 2. Holmes, "'Guinea Pig' Varminter,"* THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, *March, 1947, page 15.*

[2] *Clark, "'The Old Scratch',"* THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, *December, 1946, page 16.*

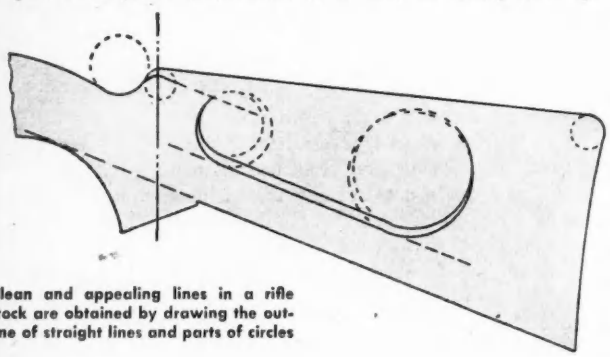
[3] *Holmes, "That 'Super' Sporter,"* THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, *November, 1946, page 15.*



The author uses this Mannlicher-type stock on a Mauser '98 action as an example. His directions, however, can easily be adapted to the production of any other style stock the shooter may desire

lower lines of the cheekpiece are parallel with the bottom line of the buttstock. The curve of the pistol grip touches an extension of the bottom line of the buttstock. The center of the pistol grip cap is vertically in line with the nose of the comb. The cheekpiece is not scanty.

To begin the designing of a rifle stock, the stockmaker should first consider the purpose for which the rifle is to be used. The design of the Mannlicher-type stock was based upon the need of a deer rifle to be used in brushy country.



Clean and appealing lines in a rifle stock are obtained by drawing the outline of straight lines and parts of circles

Since the game will usually be moving fast among the brush at close ranges, a short, light rifle which may be brought quickly to the shoulder was desired. A 170-grain caliber 8 mm. bullet will not be easily deflected while traveling through brush, so a twenty-inch 8 mm. barrel and a Mauser action were selected for the rifle. Because the short forearm of a sporter-type stock does not blend well with a short barrel, a Mannlicher-type stock was chosen to give the rifle beauty.

The assembled barrel and action are drawn first by taking dimensions directly from the barrel and action with calipers. The line of sight and then the outline of the stock about the barrel and action are drawn. There are no standard dimensions to use for drawing the stock outline. The stockmaker either makes dimensions according to his ideas of how he wants the stock to be shaped or takes dimensions from a suitable finished stock. The following dimensions which were used in designing the Mannlicher stock establish the critical points of a stock. These dimensions may be used as guides for laying out the shape of other stocks.

Depth at fore-end—¾ inch
Drop at comb from line of sight—1½ inches
Drop at heel from line of sight—2½ inches
Drop at the center of the pistol grip cap from line of sight—5 inches
Length of buttstock—13½ inches
Length of buttplate—5⅛ inches
Length of grip cap—1¾ inches
Length of cheekpiece—5½ inches
Distance from receiver tang to nose of comb—3¼ inches
Distance from nose of comb to front of cheekpiece—1¾ inches
Pitch—3½ inches

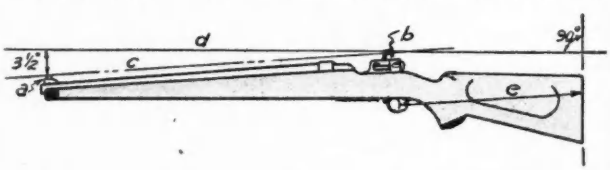
O. V. STEPHENS, JR. is an engineering student at the University of Texas, and wrote his four-part study of gunstock design as a term report for an English course. Actually, it presents nothing new, since most of the material was taken from the already published writings of Morgan Holmes, Alvin Linden and others. Nonetheless, it is a clear, concise summary of the subject, and will be valuable to the home workshop fan.

The first step of drawing the outline of the stock is laying off the critical points. The length of the buttstock is measured horizontally from the trigger to the back surface of the buttplate. The dimensions of the stock at the buttplate and grip cap are taken directly from the buttplate and grip cap which are to be used on the stock. The pitch of the stock means the angle of the buttplate in relation to the line of sight. The method for laying out a three and one-half inch pitch is shown. Any other pitch may be obtained by changing the dimension at the front sight.

Next, the critical points of the buttstock are connected with straight and circular lines where possible. The curves of the thumb rest and the pistol grip are drawn. Usually, these two lines are erased and redrawn several times before their desired shapes are obtained. The lower line of the stock is drawn straight from the end of the guard rear tang to the lower point of the fore-end. The top line of the forearm is drawn along the line of bore. The lines around the cutouts in the receiver such as the loading port complete the outline. The cheekpiece, comb undercut, buttplate, and grip cap are drawn last.

After all corrections are made, the stock outline and the front end of the magazine box are traced onto a piece of heavy paper. A pattern of the stock is made by cutting the paper along the traced outline. This pattern is used later to lay out the shape of the stock on the stock wood.

Selecting a Blank—For a gunstock which may be perfectly inletted and shaped according to the maker's ideas of design, a plain gunstock blank purchased from a reliable dealer should be used. There are many types of semi-inletted and semi-shaped gunstock blanks on the market, but they should not be used. As with the firearms manufacturers, the manufacturers of semi-inletted and semi-shaped gunstock blanks have to establish standards which best satisfy production and the average customer. There is no way of telling how much the



The initial steps in designing a gunstock are to determine the line of sight (c through a and b) and the line which determines pitch of the butt, in this instance 3½ inches. (e) is the length of the buttstock

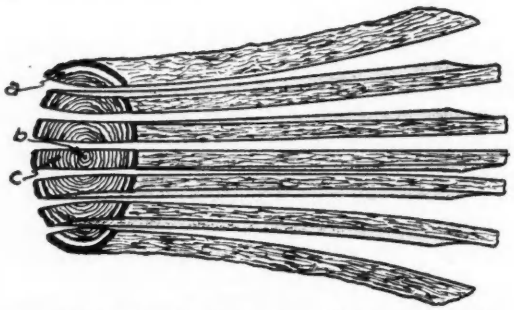
blank may have warped since leaving the manufacturer; the proper moisture content and cut of the wood cannot be relied upon. A center line cannot be established on a semi-inletted or a semi-shaped gunstock blank, and a center line is vital to proper inletting and shaping.

To give the stock beauty, the wood should be dense and have a good grain figure. The small pores and solid texture of dense wood give the stock strength and allow a good finish to be applied. Curly or burly woods, such as curly maple, bird's-eye maple, and burly walnut, make beautifully figured stocks. However, they are difficult to work with, and the way they will warp is unpredictable. Many times, these woods warp in several different directions.

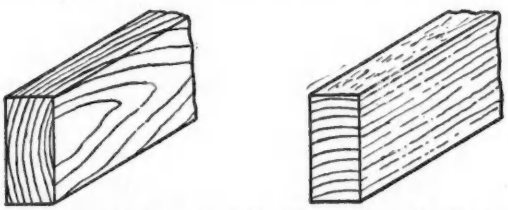
Properly seasoned blanks still have a tendency to warp and twist. An illustration shows how different sections of a tree normally warp. The best wood for gunstocks is the center

section between the sapwood and the heart of the tree. The next best, the sections on each side of the center section.

The two common ways that blanks are cut from a tree are by straight sawing and quarter sawing. Straight sawing produces a blank whose end grain runs parallel with the blank's width. Quarter sawing gives a blank whose end grain runs perpendicular to its width. Since wood warps towards the bark of the tree, a straight-sawn blank is not desirable because the stock's forearm will warp laterally to the left or to the right. If the stock is cut from a quarter-sawn blank, the forearm usually warps vertically up towards the barrel or down away from the barrel. Since a warpage up towards the barrel is the most desirable, a quarter-sawn blank should be used, and the top of the stock should be cut from the wood which was nearest to the bark of the tree.



How much a piece of wood will warp depends upon which section of the tree it was cut from. The sapwood beneath the bark (a) will warp most. The heartwood (b) will not make a good stock blank because of the tightness of the grain and the closeness of the figure. Wood from the center section but away from the heartwood (c) is the most desirable



Warpage in a straight-sawn gunstock blank will be to the right or left. A quarter-sawn blank (right) will warp upwards, toward the gun barrel

The best direction for the grain of the wood to run through the stock is shown. The grain should follow the lower line of the buttstock and run slantwise in the forearm. With the grain running in this manner, the small of the pistol grip will be as strong as possible, and the edges of the pistol grip and the toe of the buttstock will not chip easily. If the blank is quarter-sawn near the base of the tree, a stock layout may be made so the grain will follow the lower line of the buttstock, curve, and follow the top line of the stock throughout the length of the forearm. This layout is not desirable, however, because the forearm will usually warp away from the barrel. Also, the additional strength in the forearm due to the straight grain is not needed.

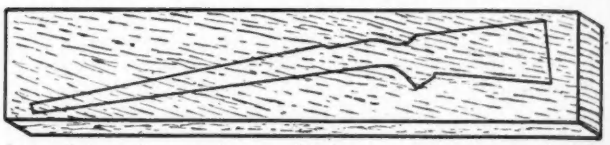
A perfect fit and watertight joints between the wood and the metal parts cannot be expected if the stock wood has not been air-seasoned and kiln-dried until it contains less than seven percent of moisture. Improper moisture content will cause many blanks to shrink, to swell, or to warp before the inletting and shaping is completed. But if the blank does contain less than seven percent of moisture, if it is not subjected to excessive heat or moisture during the inletting and shaping, and if the completed stock is properly sealed from the atmosphere, the stock will have a minimum of shrinkage and warpage.

Preparing the Wood for Inletting—The processes for preparing the wood for inletting are: (1) Squaring the right side, top, and bottom of the blank with each other, (2) removing excess wood from the blank, and (3) establishing a center line around the top, bottom, and ends of the blank. The tools needed are: A plane, hand saw, turning saw, marking gauge, and a try square.

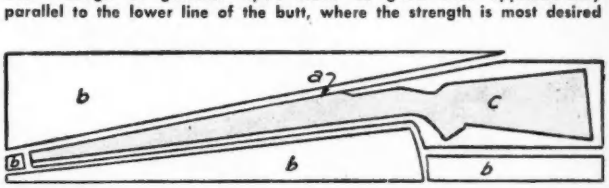
The side of the blank that is to be the right side is determined by laying the pattern on the blank so that the grain will run through the stock in the proper direction. This side must be perfectly flat and free of twists.

After the right side of the blank is trued, the stock pattern is secured to the blank with tape in a position which allows the grain to run in the proper direction through the stock. Only the top and bottom lines of the stock at the forearm and action sections are traced onto the blank. The top line is drawn straight from the end of the forearm to the end of the receiver tang and extended to the edge of the blank. At this time, the shapes of the thumb rest and the cutouts around the receiver are ignored. The bottom line is drawn one-quarter inch lower than the bottom line of the pattern. This extra one-quarter inch furnishes wood for corrections if a mistake is made during the inletting.

The pattern is now removed from the blank, and the blank is sawed along the outline. Excess wood around the buttstock is removed to make the blank less bulky, but this wood is not removed according to the pattern outline of the buttstock. All scrap wood should be kept; it will be needed to test the type of finish to be applied to the stock.



Draw design of gunstock upon blank so grain runs approximately parallel to the lower line of the butt, where the strength is most desired



In cutting the prepared blank (c), leave at least one-quarter inch extra wood everywhere except along line of sight (a). (b) is excess wood

After the sawing is completed, the straight top and bottom portions of the stock are planed smooth and squared with the right side of the blank. With a marking gauge, a line is scribed around the blank one inch from the trued right side. This line is the center line from which many dimensions are laid off during inletting. It is not the true center line of the blank, however. There is more wood to the left of the line than there is to the right. The extra wood on the left is to allow the forming of the cheekpiece. After the center line is established, the blank is ready for inletting. *(To be continued)*

SCOTTISH

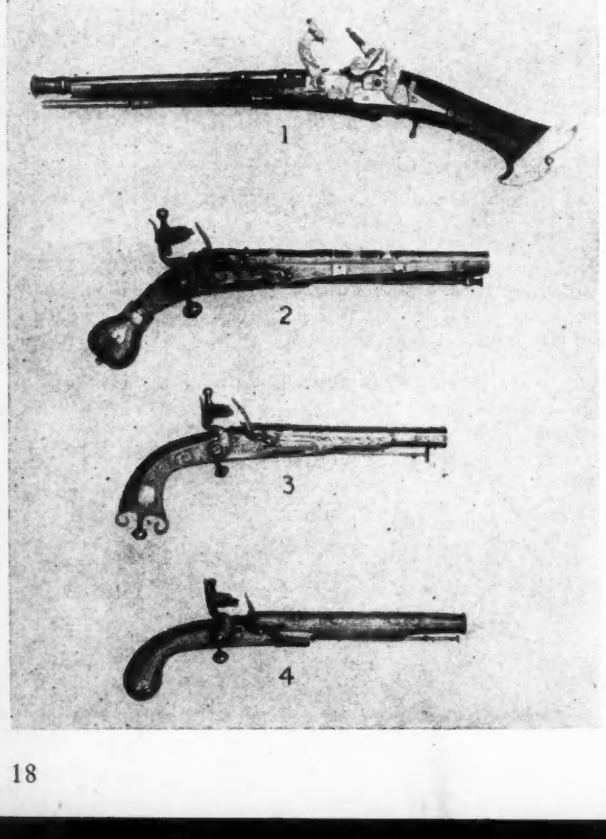
IN THE

By STEPHEN V. GRANCSAY

THE HISTORY OF THE Scottish pistol has been discussed in various publications, but these are often inaccessible to the collector. The present article describes and illustrates pistols which are on permanent exhibition in The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they may be seen at close range and when necessary handled by the experienced student.

Highland pistols, as the Metropolitan Museum's collection clearly shows, have certain characteristics which distinguish them from all others. Among these distinctive features are their steel or brass stocks, a characteristic butt, the pricker (used to clear the lock of powder fouling) which fits into the butt, globular triggers, the lack of a trigger guard, certain features of the lock mechanism, and the profuse ornamentation of scrolls and Celtic strapwork, often inlaid with silver. Furthermore they were made in pairs, the 17th century ones with right- and left-hand locks. There are four principal types of Scottish pistol, distinguished by their butts: The fish-tail, heart-shaped, lobe-shaped, and scroll or ram's horn. The lock mechanisms used are the early and late snaphaunces, and two types of flintlock, which will be discussed in detail. In rare instances the Spanish miquelet lock was used.

The records of the Incorporations of Hammermen in Scotland include the names of gunmakers at least as early as 1585. By 1646 a minor Scottish industry had been established at Doune in Stirlingshire by Thomas Caddell and others. A long line of pistolmakers followed, and at the beginning of the 18th century the all-metal flintlock pistol, with either a bulbous or ram's horn butt, was a part of the ordinary Highland full dress.



In the history of firearms, the snaphaunce is considered a direct offspring of the earlier wheellock mechanism. Since no wheellock of Scottish origin is known, it is reasonable to conclude that the snaphaunce was brought to Scotland from abroad. Scottish authorities agree about the foreign influence, but some writers claim that the Scottish snaphaunce is related to the Dutch snaphaunce, while others compare it to the North African form. Scottish and Moorish snaphaunce locks are, in fact, similar in construction. But the North African snaphaunces are of late date; they appear often on 19th century guns—one example in The Metropolitan Museum of Art is dated 1876—hence, they could not have served as a model for the late 16th century Scottish lock. The North Africans, who, incidentally, never had the wheellock, got their snaphaunce from Spain. (No doubt after the snaphaunce became obsolete in Europe many of them found their way to North Africa.)

It is likely that the Dutch snaphaunce had a similar origin. Emperor Charles V had brought many military improvements from Germany to Spain and to the Netherlands, and the snaphaunce was in all likelihood one of them. The snaphaunce was early in use in Germany, however. A mid-16th century snaphaunce pistol, bearing the Nuremberg mark, is in the Tower of London (XII-736). The known dated specimens of the early Scottish snaphaunce cover the period from 1598 to 1686.

The snaphaunce is closely related to the wheellock. In the latter the trigger mechanism (sear) fits into the wheel; in the early Scottish snaphaunce the sear goes through the lockplate and fits over a spur at the base of the hammer. Pressing the trigger withdraws the nose of the sear, allowing the hammer to strike the pyrite or flint against the steel or frizzen. As the hammer falls, the tumbler inside the lock strikes a rod which pushes back the pan cover, thus exposing the priming charge to the sparks. The frizzen is independent of the pan cover. It is pivoted on the side of the lockplate and until ready to fire is turned away from the pan, the arm being cocked and primed with the pan cover closed. Thus, the weapon was safe to carry.

These introductory remarks bring us to our first pistol (Figure 1), a snaphaunce with fish-tail butt which, though not Scottish, is of the earliest type and provides an important link in our story. It is the only pistol of this kind in America and merits a detailed description, but we will here point out only a few of its salient features. It is the left-hand pistol of a pair, and came from the Royal Armory in Dresden. (There were in Dresden two other similar pairs, dated 1598 and 1611 respectively.) The lock of the pistol in the Metropolitan Museum is dated 1615, and both lock and barrel bear an unidentified gunmaker's mark, the initials H I superimposed

Four pistols in the collection of the Metropolitan Museum in New York. The snaphaunce at the top is probably the type from which the true "Highlander" pistol was developed. The lower three are typical Scottish flintlock arms

PISTOLS

THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM

and surmounted by a crown. The stock is of rosewood, and the silver mountings are engraved in characteristic German (Saxon) style, such as appears on hundreds of extant silver-mounted Saxon swords. Of particular interest is the barrel rifling, of highest quality, with sixteen V-groves, half turn, right twist, caliber .38. This rifling is an important feature, since there is record of only one other Scottish pistol with rifled barrel. It is dated 1665. It is unlikely that our rifled pistol would have been made in Scotland in 1615 and that no other Scottish pistols of this period would have been rifled.

The barrel of the Metropolitan's example has a bead front sight and a V rear sight. Of further importance is the heraldic arms which is engraved on a silver plaque set in the barrel. The arms bear the initials *W H Z C* and are those of Wilhelm Herzog zu Curland, who was the second Duke of Courland. Wilhelm and Friedrich, sons of Gotthard Kettler, Grand Master of the Teutonic Order (who became first Duke of Courland in 1561), together ruled Courland after the death of their father in 1587. Wilhelm lost ducal power in 1616 (the year after the date of our pistol) and Friedrich was succeeded by his nephew Jakob in 1642. From the above facts it seems probable that this pistol was made in Saxony for William, Duke of Courland. It is also probable that all three pairs of pistols, which until recently have been in the Dresden Historical Museum, came from Courland. They may have been sent to Dresden by Marshal Saxe (illegitimate son of Frederick Augustus I, Elector of Saxony) who was elected Duke of Courland in 1726. It is easy to understand how this type of pistol, which was probably widely used in the Baltic provinces, could have crossed the sea to Scotland and there served as model for a type which later was to become distinctively Scottish.

It is rare to find a Scottish pistol with a miquelet or Spanish lock. This type had its mainspring and hammer assembly on the outside of the lockplate. The sear and sear spring are on the inside. Two studs, one half cock and the other full cock, pass laterally through the lockplate. When the hammer is pulled part way back toward the full-cock position, the half-cock sear engages the hammer and holds it firmly in place. When ready to discharge, the hammer is drawn back to full-cock position. Pulling the trigger draws both studs in, allowing the hammer to fall.

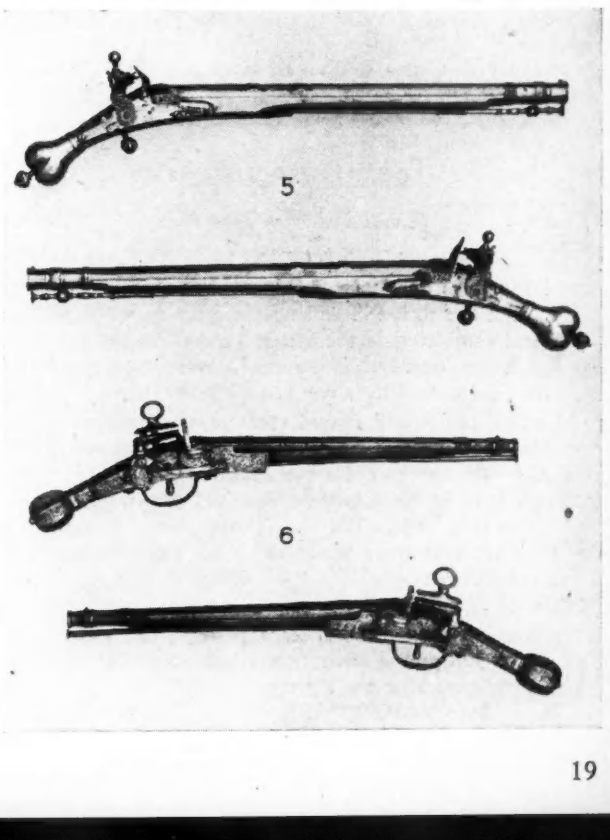
In the Museum is a pair of right- and left-hand miquelet pistols (Figure 6), each dated 1623 across the breech. With the exception of the triggers and locks, they are entirely of brass, which was less susceptible to rust than steel. They are in fine condition and the barrels are beautifully engraved with strapwork and foliation, the rose of Britain's Tudor rulers appearing repeatedly. Pollard mentions snaphaunce pistols which James I sent as a gift to the Infanta of Spain in 1609, and it is probable that many Scottish pistols found their way to that country. Our pistols undoubtedly had snaphaunce locks originally, which were replaced with the present miquelet locks either for the use of a Spaniard or a Scotsman in Spain. This is one of the rare instances known to the writer of a left-hand miquelet lock.

The Museum's earliest Scottish flintlocks (Figure 5) are a pair of dog-lock pistols, with heart-shaped butts, all steel, with locks marked with the initial R, caliber .65, dating in the late 17th century. The characteristic feature of the dog lock is a small catch on the outside of the lockplate which fits into a notch in the hammer when drawn back to half-cock, and which is thrown out when the hammer is drawn back to full-cock. These are rare pieces.

The remainder of the Museum's pistols are flintlocks. In this construction the sear mechanism, instead of operating laterally through holes in the lockplate, normally is enclosed and acts directly on the tumbler which has half-cock and full-cock notches. The frizzen and pan cover are combined and pivoted close to the pan.

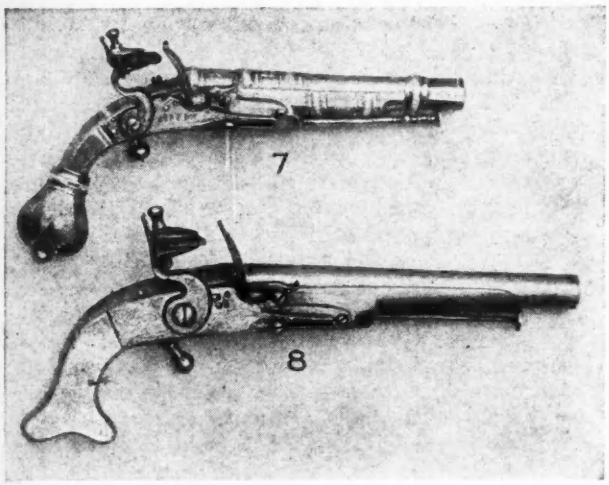
A pair of all-steel silver inlaid flintlocks (Figure 2) with heart-shaped butts and locks inscribed T F, belonged to Jonathan Porter, of Medford, Massachusetts, who held a Lieutenant's commission in the militia. These pistols are similar to an early 18th century pistol in the Royal Scottish Museum

As curator of armor and arms at New York's Metropolitan Museum, Stephen V. Grancsay has the enviable task of working with one of the world's great collections of weapons. In addition to his studies of European firearms, he has done much to foster an interest in the arms of this country. Grancsay has written many articles, and is the author of the book "American Powder Horns."



These two pairs of Scottish pistols show the distinctive feature of right- and left-hand locks, favored by the gunmakers of Doune. The lower pair is unusual in having miquelet (Spanish) locks instead of the usual form

that belonged to James, Duke of Hamilton. Another all-steel flintlock pistol (Figure 7) with heart-shaped butt and silver inlay bears the gunsmith's initials IA MK (James McKenzie of Brechin). This gunsmith was active in the second quarter of the 18th century; a pistol of steel with heart butt and another with scroll butt by this maker are in the Scottish National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh. The stone lintel of McKenzie's shop door or window, carved with his name, a musket, and a pair of holster pistols, is built into the front of a house in Market Street, Brechin.



Above: Flintlock pistol by James McKenzie of Brechin. This was made between 1725 and 1750. Below: Pistol of the type issued to the Black Watch

This English flintlock pistol, with lock by W. Green of London, has a fine Scottish barrel with the initials WL. Barrel and all mounts are of brass

Two of our illustrated flintlock pistols show a reversion to the snaphaunce principle, in that the nose of the sear is elongated and projects through a square hole in the lockplate, so as to grip the front edge of the hammer at half cock. One of those (Figure 3) with ram's horn butt was made by Thomas Murdoch of Leith, who was active in the 1780's. Another with lobe butt (Figure 4) was made by John Murdoch of Doune, who was still working in 1798.

An early 18th century pistol (Figure 9) with conventional wood stock has a very fine engraved brass Scottish barrel. It is inscribed W L and the motifs include strapwork, foliation, roses, and sun-in-splendor. The buttplate, trigger guard, and escutcheon are also of brass.

There were also two types of Regimental Highland pistols, one all steel with scroll butt and locks marked Bissell, the other (Figure 8) with gun-metal stock and butt (an adaptation of the heart- or kidney-shaped variety) and steel barrel. These types were furnished by the government to the Black Watch and other Highland Regiments between 1739 and 1776. They exist in such great numbers, and are so uniform in construction, that it is clear they were made in England for the use of the Scotch Regiments.

John Murdoch, who was referred to above, was the last of the successful Scottish gunmakers. About twenty years after Murdoch's death, a John Paterson attempted to revive the trade. Although he turned out a good pistol, there was no demand, and with his failure, pistol-making in Doune became a lost art. ♦ ♦ ♦

Target Accuracy

(Continued from page 14)

This time we did a little of the kind of mountaineering that other sheep hunters write about. We short cut dangerously down one rock cliff and up the other slope. Again the long hard climb to gain the fifteen hundred feet of elevation we had lost so quickly. This time I never felt tired—I had seen rams for sure, a little one and a big one.

We levelled off and neared the corner around which we hoped to spot the rams. I regained my wind as we slowed our pace and approached more cautiously. The wind was still in our favor but sometimes it would die away and then shift around a little. We should have been close to two hundred yards away if our calculations made from a mile away were correct.

Once more our luck was not with us. Something, some noise, some scent, some sixth sense, perhaps, had warned our two rams. Jim peeked around the corner first. He stiffened, and I knew something was not right.

"Get up here and shoot!" he hollered with no caution whatever. I snapped off the safety and stepped up beside him.

There were our rams on the dead run—the little one ahead. I'm not going to tell you how far they were. Let's still be friends. It was so far I don't ever want to have to make a shot like that again to save a fine hunting trip from failure.

The rams were running broadside to us, just about to get farther away. Automatically I led one length on the big one, held high (even with his nose), and squeezed the trigger. He plunged dead in a heap, with a shot through his heart, while the little ram raced on to become a big trophy himself in a couple more years, I hope.

Mine was not the best ram in the world, but it was a big, healthy brute just the same. Massive, thirty-six and a half inch curl, with fully four inches broken off of each battle-scarred horn.

Jim shook my hand and got excited.

"I've never seen such a shot, and never hope to again! Ernie and I have never seen such shooting as you and the Colonel can do any day!"

"We're carrying target equipment, that's all, Jim."

I won't ever cry about my luck any more. And don't you ever pack two fine rifles on one horse! ♦ ♦ ♦

INSIDE THE O.K.H. CARTRIDGE

By DON MARTIN

WHEN O.K.H. DUPLEX loads* were announced seven or eight years ago, it was expected that the whole story could be told in a very short time. The first hitch in the program was patent trouble. Duplex loading is now patented in the United States and Canada, and patents are pending in Great Britain. Then, when the war came along and Elmer Keith took a Government job at Ogden Ordnance Depot, further work for the shooting public was interrupted.

The heart of the O.K.H. Duplex system of loading fixed ammunition is a flash tube that extends about two-thirds of the way up from the primer toward the base of the bullet. The powder must be firmly packed in the case and the bullet seated snugly on it. Any looseness in the powder charge will destroy the Duplex effect and produce the excessive pressures of an overload. (See drawing at right.)

With the powder tight in the case, the tube carries the primer flash past the rear two-thirds of the charge and ignites the forward third first. This is the thing that makes Duplex click. The rear end of the charge is not ignited by the primer flash—it is ignited by the previously ignited powder in the front end of the case. It sounds like a distinction without a difference but the difference is there. The front third of the charge cannot ignite the back two-thirds without burning. It cannot burn without producing gas. It cannot produce gas without building up pressure. It cannot build up pressure between the bullet and the unburned powder without giving the bullet a gentle nudge up the barrel.

When we get to this point we have a pressure column set up between the bullet and the unconsumed remainder of the powder charge. That pressure has been given its direction long before, comparatively speaking, the pressure peak is reached. This pressure column pushes both ways from the middle. It not only shoves the bullet up the barrel but holds the powder in the back of the case until the last grain is fully consumed. Then it puts its big foot against the base of the cartridge and gives the rapidly accelerating bullet a mighty heave with its shoulder. But the pressure has long since been given its direction. It is flowing up the barrel in pursuit of the bullet. It does not cause excessive head pressure.

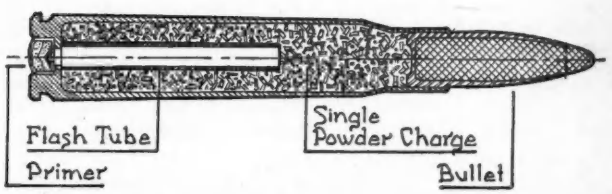
In Duplex loading the delay between primary ignition and the ultimate pressure which gives it greater progressiveness may be no more than just that—a millionth of a second. Or it may take twenty-five millionths of a second. In any event it will be all the same to the shooter.

The comparatively slow, easy manner in which Duplex starts bullets reduces throat wear and erosion. The front half of the barrel heats fastest. Keith claims that the pressure curve reaches its highest point further forward in the barrel than it does with conventional loading. The fact that combustion is more complete with Duplex than with ordinary loads is indicated by the muzzle flash. There is no lance of flame stabbing out from the muzzle—only a faint flicker of incandescent gas.

To obtain maximum results from Duplex loadings, a very exact balance must be had between bore diameter, case capacity, and bullet weight. If the bullet is too light or the bore too large, it appears to release pressure too fast to insure complete, or speedy enough, combustion of the propellant. If the case is too small, there is lack of adequate follow-up pressure. Only a few of our present-day cartridges are likely to be pepped up much by Duplex but many can be given approximately standard velocities with lower chamber pressure. The .30-'06 with 150 grain bullet, for instance, can be "Duplexed" to standard velocity with 10,000 pounds less pressure.

Duplex cannot be combined with free boring. There must be enough resistance at the start in bullet weight (inertia) and friction to insure the pressure required for complete combustion of the powder charge.

Curiously, the rules for keeping Duplex pressures down are exactly the opposite of those for standard loadings. To reduce the charge enough to loosen it in the case will destroy the Duplex action and raise pressures. A loose chamber, which permits too rapid ignition of the rear end of the charge, may do the same thing. This last point is not unreasonably critical. I have shot 220-grain .30-'06 Duplex loads in several different rifles without any evidence of excess pressure. None of these guns were as tightly chambered as my Model 70 for which the ammunition was loaded. Duplex stimulates the 220-grain .30-'06 load by about 100 feet a second.



Basically, Duplex loading is an attempt to control and direct the pressure in a cartridge case. Upon ignition of the powder charge, which must fill the case, through the flash tube, the bullet is started forward and powder burns rapidly to the rear. When combustion is complete, the bullet, by this time well forward in the barrel, is given a final push before it leaves the muzzle

The word "Duplex" has caused some confusion. It is usually understood to refer to mixed powder charges. The O.K.H. people intend it to describe the double-ignition effect.

The most perfect Duplex cartridge so far developed is the .285, which is a .30-'06 case necked down to that caliber. With 180-grain bullets it punched a hole through a steel plate at fifty yards which the .300 H. & H. Magnum 180-grain load failed to penetrate at twenty yards. The .300 was zeroed at 400 yards and when shot at 200 yards showed a trajectory rise of seven and a half inches. At the same ranges the .285 had only a five-inch rise. This is a difference of 33 1/3 percent in favor of the Duplex loading in a much smaller case.

Another successful Duplex cartridge is the 7 mm. necked down to 6.5 mm. and known as the .265 O.K.H. With a 160-grain bullet and standard loads this cartridge gives about

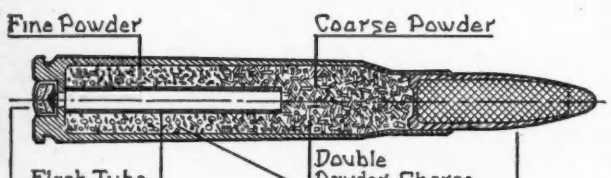
* Named after the inventors: Charles O'Neil, Elmer Keith and Don Hopkins.—ED.

2,600 foot-seconds velocity. It gets about 2,800 out of 45 grains of No. 4350 Duplexed. Triple-duplexed (of which more later), it gives velocities which just about parallel those of the .285 Duplex 180-grain load.

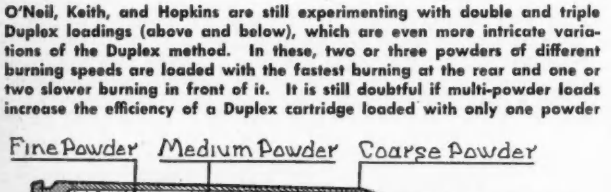
Keith and his associates have a big cartridge (they object for some reason to having it called a Magnum) which they have named the .334 O.K.H. This is expanded from .300 H. & H. Magnum cases. It is a great long-range, big-game cartridge—to my mind the best ever designed for North American hunting. It has more punch than the .300, better ballistics than the .375, and all this in standard loadings. They have Duplexed it naturally but it does not respond.

Before designing the .334, Keith, O'Neil, and Hopkins brought out the .333. Both the .333 and .334 use the same bullets. The .333 is based on an expanded .30-'06 case. I have several disinterested reports on the .333 from experienced elk hunters, who speak very highly of it. Both Winchester Model 70 and Remington Model 720 rifles could be chambered for it and should be. We need it. Duplex loads, however, do little or nothing for it other than to reduce pressures.

Several years after Duplex had been well proved in the .285 cartridge, the three Duplex originators dreamed up another



O'Neil, Keith, and Hopkins are still experimenting with double and triple Duplex loadings (above and below), which are even more intricate variations of the Duplex method. In these, two or three powders of different burning speeds are loaded with the fastest burning at the rear and one or two slower burning in front of it. It is still doubtful if multi-powder loads increase the efficiency of a Duplex cartridge loaded with only one powder



interesting idea—that of loading two or three types or granulations of powder in a case and keeping them separate and in layers. As they are slightly compressed and immovable in the case, they do not mix. Keith calls this method of loading double or triple Duplex, and writes it Dx2 and Dx3.

This Dx2 and Dx3 layer-cake system of loading brings up another interesting Duplex contradiction. The fast powder must be put in the base of the case and the slow on top to be ignited first. To reverse this order whoops up the pressure. The logic is obvious. Get the bullet started and the pressure column directed and then bring on the pressure peak. I am not enthused over Dx2 and Dx3. It is complicated. To my mind, a cartridge that needs such a treatment for best results is out of balance some way in the first place. Case capacity is lacking, the bullet is too light or the bore too large. I believe all these factors can be adjusted to one type of powder for a maximum result. Personally, I feel that the factors are about right in the standard .285 Duplex 180-grain load.

It does not appear to make any difference to Duplex loadings whether the cartridge shoulder is sharp or sloping. Diameter and length, however, are certainly related to Duplex efficiency. The length of the flash tube is important. A long tube starts pressures more slowly and might produce excess pressure by not getting the bullet started quickly enough. Too

If the O.K.H. Duplex does, as claimed, give higher velocities for a given chamber pressure, why hasn't it been adopted for small arms cartridges by the Ordnance Department? Martin's article gives a very plain indication of the reason. He states that O.K.H. Duplex involves three factors: A flash tube, a cartridge case packed full of powder, and at times the use of two or more kinds of powder in the same load.

While it is quite feasible to incorporate all of these features in hand-loaded cartridges, no one of them is practicable or even possible in the mass production of military small arms ammunition.

Take the flash tube. The Ordnance Department has long used flash tubes or long primers in artillery ammunition, and from time to time has toyed with the idea of using flash tubes in small arms cartridges. Twenty years ago the late Major K. K. V. Casey of Du Pont was a great advocate of the flash tube, and it was experimented with extensively at Frankford Arsenal. Andy Hallowell, master mechanic in the Small Arms Department, figuratively tore his hair trying to make the ones for experimental firings. Some benefit was obtained but it was far too small to justify the production difficulties involved.

Then take the matter of two kinds of powder. As long as one can remember, a black-powder igniting charge has been used in artillery ammunition down to calibers as small as 20 mm. In small arms ammunition, priming charges of quick-burning powder have been used extensively in handloads, but again this is not practicable in mass production.

As to the full cartridge case, that is another O.K.H. feature that is hardly practicable for military small arms ammunition. The powder is loaded by volume, and the lots of powder always vary somewhat in strength. Suppose we adjusted the granulation of the powder so that a case entirely full would just give the correct velocity with a safe pressure. Then with the next lot of powder we might find that we couldn't get up to the velocity with a full case; or we might find the reverse, a case nine-tenths full giving standard velocity. It has been tried, and that is exactly what happens.

If the reader will remember that some fifty billion rounds of small arms ammunition were made during the recent war, he will realize that hand loading and mass production are two different things.—MAJ. GEN. JULIAN S. HATCHER.

short a tube would cause excessive primary pressure. Bullet weight and bore capacity are important. Obviously the rate of combustion and the pressure working range of the powder are vital as well.

Finally, the Duplex experimenter has two objectives from which to choose. He can work toward all the velocity possible with a certain weight of bullet and a permissible pressure, or he can take a standard bullet weight and velocity and work backward for the lowest possible pressure. It will be a long time before the angles of Duplex loading are fully explored.

There is no indication that Duplex can do anything for the light bullet, ultra high-speedsters such as the .220 Swift. It might produce a spectacular .22 with a heavier bullet. It is unlikely that it can do anything for the pile-driver guns of the elephant hunter except possibly reduce pressures.

Duplex seems to be at its best in such cartridges as the .285 necked down from the .30-'06 and the .265 necked down from the 7 mm. Its strongest point apparently lies in combining sectional density—a long heavy bullet—with velocities a little better than we have ever managed with comparable pressures. It spells long-range accuracy for the target shooter and long-range accuracy and long-range impact energy for the hunter. The .285 appears to have as much on the .300 H. & H. Magnum as that gun has on the .30-'06. I believe a bull gun chambered for the .285 O.K.H. Duplex cartridge would be sensational in a 1000-yard match. It is the easiest gun for sure hits over long, uncertain range that I have ever fired. Duplex cuts down or slows recoil. It seems to lessen barrel vibration. It is accurate.

There is one final thing to be said of Duplex loading. Cartridges have to be just so to be "Duplexed" efficiently. However, the .285 would closely approximate the familiar .270 without Duplex loading and the hunter with a .285 could have a few Duplex cartridges in his belt for an emergency and if he wished, ordinarily use the gun as a standard .270. ◆ ◆ ◆

RIFLES ARE BACK!

LAST MONTH WE PUBLISHED the good news from the DCM announcing Springfield and Enfield rifles available—once again—for sale to NRA adult members at popular prices.

Rifles currently available include the Enfield Model 1917, quoted at $5.00, and the Springfield Model 1903 for $15.00, both classed as "unserviceable." An unserviceable rifle is "one which has not been inspected and consequently is unsafe to fire until examined by a competent person (gunsmith) to insure that all safety factors exist, including a test for headspace not greater than 1.946 inch."

Other rifles now available are the Springfield Model 1903 classed as "serviceable" for $30.00, and the Model 1903-A3 Springfield, new and used, priced at $50.00 each. The Model 1903-A3 rifle is patterned after the Springfield Model 1903, using the same cartridge and bolt action, but many of the A3 parts are steel stampings and consequently are not interchangeable. The excise tax of 11 percent applies on purchases of Model A3 new rifles *only*. All others are tax free. Receiver serial numbers on all Model 1903 rifles, those classed as unserviceable included, will be above 800,000 for Springfield Arsenal manufacture or above 285,507 if manufactured at Rock Island Arsenal. Thus, each Springfield purchaser is assured of receiving a rifle having a double heat-treated steel or nickel steel receiver.

The usual limitation as to purchases applies. Starting with the year 1945, any adult member of the NRA is privileged to purchase one Enfield, one Springfield (serviceable or unserviceable), and one Springfield M-1903-A3 or M-1903-A1. Those who have purchased since 1945 an M-1903-A1 rifle (no longer available) are not eligible to purchase a M-1903-A3. All rifle purchases since the beginning of the year 1945 will count in determining eligibility.

The October RIFLEMAN indicated that the supply of Model 1903-A3 rifles was exhausted. This was a typographical error. It is the supply of Springfield *M1903-A1* rifles that is exhausted. Also the October RIFLEMAN quotes IMR Powder in case lots of *100 lbs.* The DCM has just received word that this powder, (available at Milan, Tenn., Depot), is now packed in *150 lb.* metal-lined wood boxes. If less than 150 lbs. is ordered, the purchaser must send the depot a container legally acceptable by the carrier. The cost of IMR No. 4895 powder is 22½ cents per pound or $33.75 for a case of 150 lbs.

The DCM advises that a generous supply of government rifles has been made available for sale to NRA members and that requests to purchase will be processed in the order received. We further understand that the rifles generally are in good condition and well worth the purchase price. Prospective purchasers should remember that the NRA now has over a quarter million members, many of whom are eligible to place orders. Because of the great volume of purchase requests anticipated, the DCM and the shipping depots are sure to fall behind in distribution of the rifles. But we have assured the government officials concerned that NRA members will understand the reasons for such delays and co-operate fully in view of the situation as explained.

A new price list containing detailed conditions of purchasing, together with a handy order form, is now ready and will be mailed promptly to anyone requesting it. Meantime, the DCM will accept order letters from eligible purchasers under the following conditions:

1. Address the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Department of the Army, Washington 25, D. C.

2. Copy the following certificate and sign it:

"I desire to purchase the ordnance items as listed for my own use and not for resale. My National Rifle Association Membership card is enclosed herewith. If I have listed either the Springfield or Enfield rifle, I certify that I have not purchased a rifle of the same model through the DCM since 1945 and I also agree to accept either or both (M-1903-A3 rifles excluded) in whatever condition it may arrive from any shipping point in the continental United States. Furthermore, I understand that a rifle classified as 'unserviceable' is unsafe to fire until examined by a competent person such as a gunsmith, to insure that all safety factors exist, including a test for headspace not greater than 1.946 inch."

3. DO NOT send remittance covering your DCM purchase, but enclose your NRA identification card.

Mounts for Hunting Scopes

BY AL BARR ★ ★ ★ **A DOPE BAG "REVIEW"**

A SCOPE-SIGHT CAN BE NO BETTER than its mount. No matter how good the scope, it is worthless unless the mount holds it rigidly. Fortunately, the makers of scope sight mounts have built into their products the same high quality as have the manufacturers of scope sights (see "Scopes For Big Game," in THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, September, 1947). The trouble lies in the multiplicity of designs and models of mounts on the market. Selection, for the average shooter, is a difficult problem.

As far as hunting sights go, scope mounts may be divided into three groups: (1) Those for scopes having built-in adjustments for both windage and elevation; (2) those for scopes having elevation adjustments only within the scope; and (3) mounts for scopes with neither windage nor elevation adjustments. There are relatively few mounts made for this last type. In the second group, which includes the majority of European scopes, there are, to my knowledge but two American glasses—the Stith Bear Cub and S-4.

Mount bases fall into three general types. These are: (1) A rib or two independent bases or V-blocks located centrally over the receiver and barrel; (2) a base located on the left side of the receiver; and (3) a combination of the two. This last category includes, for example, mounts with a front base located on top of the receiver ring and a rear base fastened to the left, or sometimes the right, side of the receiver bridge.

To add to the apparent confusion of scope mount design, there is in each group the so-called quick-detachable mount with which the scope can simply be lifted off the rifle; the semi-quick detachable that requires the removal of one or two screws to dismount; and the fixed type. Before making a selection from the mass of types and makes available, the hunter must decide whether he wants a fixed mount, a "semi-fixed," or a quick-detachable one. His own requirements must be considered.

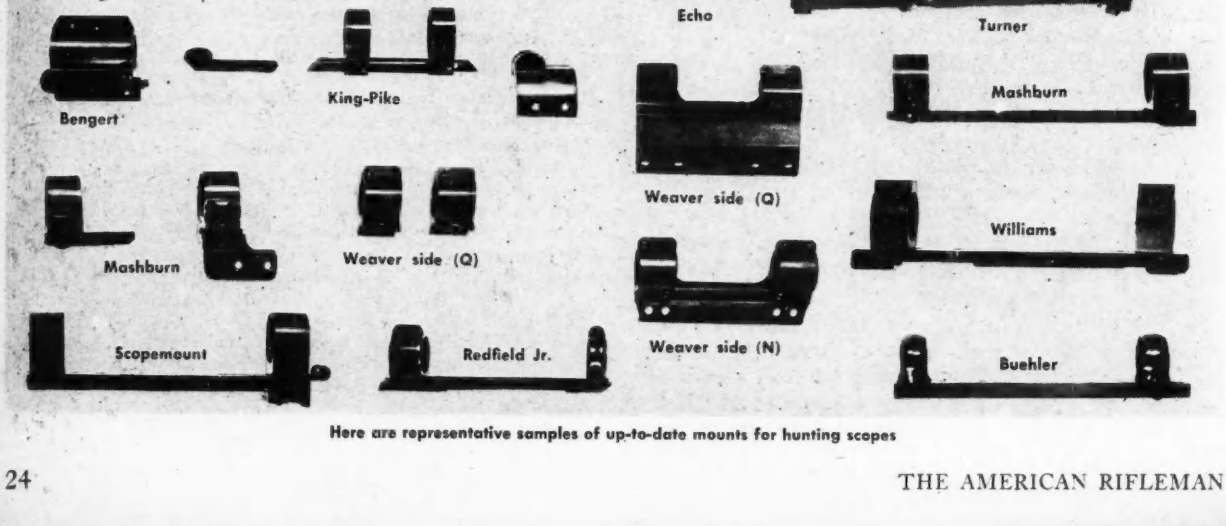
For hunting in rugged country the quick-detachable mount does have its advantages. The scope may be carried independently of the rifle for safety of packing and can be installed instantly when needed. This type of mount *can* be made to hold its zero, which is of paramount importance.

Should the quick-removable feature be desired, there are several good mounts to consider:

The King-Pike and Turner mounts are quick-detachable in every sense of the word. Both of them support the scope in two V-blocks which are attached to the rifle. The Turner has a band around the center of the scope with a spring attached to the bottom side. This spring hooks under the inner ends of the bases. With the King-Pike and the older model Turner, the scope must have internal adjustments. For the King-Pike a plunger-type rod is connected to the scope by two bands. This beveled-end rod, instead of a spring, holds the scope in the V-bases.

One possible criticism of this system is that there is considerable pull on the scope body, which could possibly spring the scope out of alignment unless the tube is quite heavy. A recent improvement in the Turner is the use of opposing screws, set at 45-degree angles in the rear base, on which the scope tube actually rests, rather than on the V-bases. These screws provide both windage and elevation adjustments. While practical for zeroing-in or for using one scope on two or more rifles, this type of adjustment has its disadvantages. Unless both adjusting screws are moved the same amount, both lateral and vertical changes will be made. It is not too easy to sight-in with a mount of this type.

Some very recent changes have been made in the Turner adjustments, which should simplify sight changes. No first-



Here are representative samples of up-to-date mounts for hunting scopes

hand experience is available, however, with these latest designs.

One particular advantage of this type of mount is that a varmint- or target-type scope can be zeroed in the mounts and then, without further adjustment, a hunting scope can be mounted and zeroed-in using the internal adjustments. This means that two or more scopes can be used without further correction, as the scopes go back to their original zero. Any similar combination could be used on two or more rifles.

Some years ago Andy Sorensen was making his "springboard" mount. The scope is mounted on a long flexible spring with elevation adjustment at the front end of the scope and windage in the rear V-base. It is a quick-detachable type and one scope, even without adjustments, can be used on two or more rifles without sighting—again after each change. While the mount does not look rugged, it can hold its own if my deer hunting experience with one and many favorable reports mean anything. Fortunately, this mount is to be made again. Sorenson, incidentally, does his exhibition shooting using one scope on three or more rifles fitted with these bases.

Another quick-detachable is the Williams. Unlike the three mounts just described, the Williams is anchored to the base by means of hooks on the underside of the front mount ring. These "feet" anchor the front end to the base and a cross bolt holds down the back end, similar to some of the German mounts. There is no means for adjustment, except two small opposing screws in front for preliminary zeroing after mounting the scope on a rifle.

One of the latest quick-detachable mounts is the "Scopemount." It is so new that relatively little is known about it. The front is anchored to the base, while the rear ring is locked in a dovetail cut in the back end of the base. The one objection to this mount is that the holes in the base at the front end are nine-sixteenths inch apart, or nearer the same as the standard front bases, while rifles drilled and tapped at the factory have the holes spaced seven-eighths inch apart. This means drilling and tapping at least one extra hole in the receiver ring.

There are probably more of the "easy-detachable" type of hunting-scope mounts on the market than any other sort. Almost every maker of hunting-scope mounts has at least one easy-detachable model. With most of these, one or two screws must be either loosened or removed entirely in order to remove the scope. The typical design is to have the front mount ring pivot in the base, with two opposing windage screws locking the rear ring to the mount base. By removing one windage screw the scope can be pivoted a quarter turn to remove it from the rifle. These mounts can be used with scopes having internal windage adjustments, and those lacking this feature.

When the scope is replaced in one of these mounts, it should go back to its original position. Most of the time it will. Much depends on the shooter's "sense of feel," or just how much to tighten those windage or locking screws.

Being rugged and located centrally over the receiver, this type is one of the best designs to use when mounting a heavy scope. Redfield Senior and Tilden are two other good ones. These mounts have been proven many times to be quite reliable, even with the heaviest scopes. The Redfield Junior is unquestionably one of the most popular, especially with the smaller, lighter scopes. It is not the best, however, for very big and heavy scopes on rifles where the recoil is excessive.

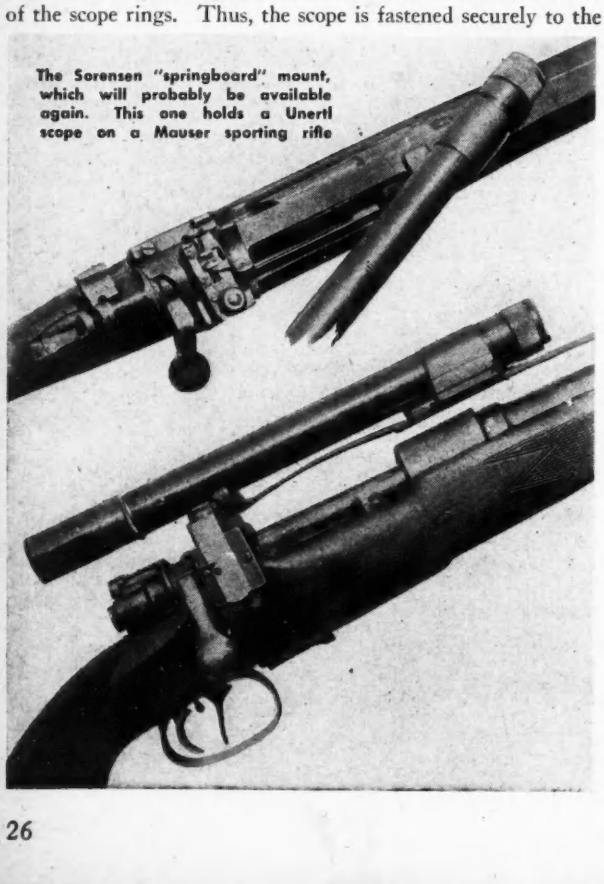
There are some new developments in easy-detachable mounts

Stith 22-22: Weaver 2½X on Winchester 69
Redfield Jr: Weaver 2½X with Litschert on 1917
Stith: Bear Cub 2½X on Savage 99
Williams: Texan 2½X on Remington 141
Hill: Weaver 1X on Marlin 39
Burton: Weaver 29S on 1917 Enfield
Tilden: Maxwell-Smith 2½ on 1917

which appear quite promising. In most of them, the mount rings are made with the lugs for locking screws on top or above the scope. The main objection to this is appearance. In the Buehler, the underside of the widely separated rear rings rest on the base, and the scope is clamped in place by the conventional opposing windage screws. The ring is split and the windage screws serve also for clamping the ring on the scope tube. The lug on the front ring is anchored under a horizontal screw through the front end of the base, which is cut lengthwise to provide a means for taking up any lost motion. This is an attractive, well-designed mount.

The Mashburn, like the Buehler, has smooth top lines. It also has one additional feature which is quite desirable. The underside of the scope rings are milled to fit the dovetailed ends of the base, or two separate bases, which are quite wide, thus giving plenty of support for the scope and rings. In addition one of the most secure methods of fastening is provided for the Mashburn mount. The rings are clamped securely to the base by horizontal screws passing through both the rings and base. No amount of recoil should cause the scope to change zero. This mount can certainly compete with any other type for a big, heavy scope, when the recoil will be severe. The Mashburn is attractive in appearance, as well as being rigid. The scope can be removed by taking out the two locking screws. The design is such that the scope is certain to go back to zero. The scope used in the Mashburn must have internal adjustments.

The Williams easy-detachable mount has a unique feature in its method of fastening to the base. Two locking screws, one at each mount ring, have large knurled heads. These screws come up through the base and thread into the underside of the scope rings. Thus, the scope is fastened securely to the base. The knurled heads, being quite large, extend beyond the sides of the base. These can be tightened with the fingers, so a coin or screwdriver is not needed to remove or replace the scope. Those who have seen this mount usually prefer it to the Williams quick-detachable style.



The Sorensen "springboard" mount, which will probably be available again. This one holds a Unertl scope on a Mauser sporting rifle

In addition to the many custom-made Stith mounts, the easy-detachable model is quite a popular one. Stith prefers to have internal elevation adjustments only, providing a means for making windage changes in the mount. This is sound reasoning and Stith has worked out a very accurate and sturdy windage adjustments for his mounts. The easy-detachable mount is anchored to the bases (top of receiver ring and side of receiver bridge) by means of two knurled screws. In designing this mount Stith kept in mind the necessity of the scope holding its zero under all conditions, and he seems to have accomplished that end.

Some years ago when the first Stith mounts came on the market they were criticized from an engineering standpoint for their top and side mounting arrangement. The Stith though has certainly withstood the test and Stith mounts are now in the top bracket of popularity. It is one of the favorites for saddle-scabbard use. Reasons for this popularity are the protection provided for the front end of the scope and the allowance of maximum distance between mount bases.

There are several ring mounts worth mentioning. The Hill mount has dovetail bases which fit on a rib or on conventional scope bases. On one rifle with scope in a Hill mount which has seen much use, the zero has not changed in more than six months. When fitted on the Hill dovetail base these neat, reliable rings can readily be fitted to the receiver of most bolt-action rifles. On single-shot rifles regular bases can be located to give the widest possible separation between mount rings. The only possibly weak parts of the Hill mount are the small locking screws on each ring. So far, though, they have been satisfactory in my experience.

Probably the neatest of any mounts made are the Lehman ring type. These appear to have been made of regular bar stock. The one and three-eighths inch diameter rings are bored off center for the scope tube. This leaves a thicker section on one side. A dovetail is cut in this thick section and small Allen screws lock the rings to the short, standard width bases which come with the mounts.

Regular scope bases could be used though and they should be to avoid drilling extra holes in the receiver ring of a rifle which has already been drilled and tapped at the factory. Adequate means is provided for clamping these rings to the scope tube. There are no projections of any kind to detract from the appearance. These mounts do not appear to be too rugged as, being small, the metal is quite thin around the dovetail cuts.

There is a demand for a quick-detachable mount which will leave the top of the receiver clear so that iron sights can be used when the scope is removed. This requirement can usually be met only by using a side mount.

The Griffin & Howe double-lever side mount is one of the oldest, and most widely used, of those mounts which are readily available. Colonel Whelen and others swear by it for maintaining its zero, even when removing and replacing the scope. To insure constant zero with the G&H or others of the type, it is best always to be consistent and lock either with the front or rear lever in the same order each time the scope

is replaced. If this is not done consistently, it is possible with some mounts at least to cause a change in setting.

The Jaeger is another well-designed side mount. It has but one locking lever, which engages milled grooves in the mount base so that it is impossible for the mount to move under recoil. A long bearing surface is provided where the mount contacts the base, and with its single locking lever there is no chance of a change in zero when replacing the scope.

The latest side mount we know of is the Echo. This mount has one very desirable feature. The mount body has a milled cut along its entire length in the form of one-half of a dovetail, which fits a correspondingly shaped base screwed and pinned to the rifle. The two parts are held together using two clamps and knurled nuts. This seems to be a very desirable way to do the job, and the mount positively goes back to zero. The only reason it would not, would be through damage to the base or sand or dirt getting between the mount and the base.

On the basis of dependability, there is little on which to base a choice between these side mounts, including the well-known Noske. This is fully as reliable as the other makes. One reason though why the Echo should be perhaps the more popular is its equality of design at lower-than-average cost.

One quick-detachable top mount which is in a class by itself is made by R. R. Foster. This one is mentioned for its unusual features only, as it is not yet in regular production, although pilot models have been tried and found to have possibilities. The entire mount and bases are attached to the scope tube itself so that when the scope is removed nothing is left on the rifle to indicate that a scope had ever been on it.

A sleeve with a heavy spring inside fits over the scope tube and at either end a hook on the bottom side engages small cuts in the underside of the receiver ring and receiver bridge. In addition there are two V-shaped "feet" attached to the scope in front and in back of the sleeve, similar to those used on the original 330 Weaver scope. These rest on top of the receiver to support the scope. Zero was maintained when removing and replacing the scope in a trial test. Some changes in design should be made, however, before this mount is put into regular production.

Another side mount of the fixed type is the improved Weaver. The new Type-N is simply the older Type-T with a few changes. Now four instead of two screws anchor the mount to the side of the receiver. The latest Weaver is the Type-Q, which is machined from a solid piece of light-metal alloy. It seems to be by far the best side mount Weaver has yet produced, and the most attractive. Weaver also makes a Type-U and Q top mounts. All of these types are fastened to the rifle by means of four screws, and they are not quick detachable.

Several makes of hinged swing-out mounts are available. With these, auxiliary iron sights may be used by swinging the scope to one side. The oldest of these is probably the Pachmayr. Some changes and improvements have been made since the first model was brought out. The mount base on the left side of the receiver is linked to the mount with hardened and ground steel pins and cones. The scope is easily removed by twisting one knurled nut. The Pachmayr, like the Burton hinged side mount, may have its advantages for certain purposes at least. In addition to swing the scope to the left for loading from a clip, the scope could be swung up to permit the use of auxiliary iron sights. As these mounts place the scope quite low on the rifle, the rear sight, if an aperture, would

A typical "swing-out" mount: the Pachmayr, with the Lyman Alaskan on a Winchester 70

have to be a hinged affair. Otherwise an open rear sight placed forward of the scope would be a necessity.

Even for the use of an auxiliary iron sight, in case of the scope being damaged, these hinged or swing mounts do not have any particular advantage over the Sorensen with its built-in tip-up aperture and instantaneous scope-removal feature. Ackley has also made the Turner with built-in rear sight and Williams has a neat aperture which fits the base of his easy-detachable mount. Almost any hunter feels better if he has that extra sight equipment handy, but for average hunting conditions the clip-loading features have no particular advantage.

One of the latest scope mounts to appear is the Stith 22-22, designed for use with the excellent new J2.5 Weaver scope on .22 caliber hunting rifles. It is a simple, relatively inexpensive mount, which does require making holes in the receiver.

One other patented hinged mount has been developed, but not made commercially. This one, like the Pachmayr and Burton, has been developed to the point where it is practical. It was designed by Hobart White, and was reviewed in the March 1944 issue of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. It is mentioned only to indicate that enough research and practical experimentation went into this design to prove its practical worth, for those who like this type of mount. Personally I cannot see the great advantage of having "two sets of sights" readily available if one is careful to keep the scope lenses reasonably clean.

There, of course, are many other special and custom-made mounts, which are more or less satisfactory. At one time we had the Albree Monomount. Its counterpart now, with the quick-detachable feature, is the Bengert mount. Being a single unit short-base affair, there is noticeably too much overhang of the scope in front and in back of the Bengert mount. Even a light blow on either end of the scope could cause a change in zero by actually bending the scope tube or by placing too much strain on the two holding screws. The advantage of the Albree or Bengert is ease of mounting on rifle receivers already drilled and tapped for scope bases.

Scope mounting can be quite a problem for anyone inexperienced in this sort of work. Fortunately, a number of the mount makers have designed mounts to fit the holes already drilled in such popular rifles as the *(Continued on page 44)*

Boone and Crockett Club

THE BOONE AND CROCKETT CLUB owes its existence to Theodore Roosevelt the elder. In December of 1887, at a dinner at his residence, he proposed to a group of friends the formation of a club of American rifleman-hunters to be called the Boone and Crockett Club.

The regular membership of the Club since its foundation has been limited to one hundred and "no one is eligible for regular membership who shall not have killed with the rifle, in fair chase, at least one adult male individual of each of three of the various species of American large game."

The world record bighorn, taken by James Simpson in British Columbia in 1920. AMNH Collection

About 1929 the late Prentiss N. Gray, a member of the Boone and Crockett Club, decided that the time had come to record trophies of North American big game in an American publication. He had the assistance of an advisory committee but undertook, practically single handed, the long and tedious task of collecting the data for this publication.

The reception given the book by sportsmen and the belief that a still more ambitious publication was desirable led to plans for a second edition. The tragic death of Prentiss Gray left this project in the hands of a committee of the Boone and Crockett Club with Alfred Ely as chairman. This committee decided to amplify the statistical recording of measurements to include chapters on life histories, hunting and photography. This book was published in 1939.

The record pronghorn, shot in Arizona by Wilson Potter. Nat. Collection of Heads and Horns

The second edition of "North American Big Game" has sold over 2000 copies and is now accepted as the standard authority on records of big game mammals of North America.

The Boone and Crockett Club has decided to continue recording measurements of North American big game and wishes to utilize the many channels now established for bringing in this data. Despite every effort made to locate large heads killed years ago, occasionally such trophies still come to light and at rare intervals these may be world records. Furthermore, the Club wishes to encourage selective hunting. The sportsman who will pass by a number of mediocre heads in his search for one of outstanding dimensions is doing more for conservation than he who is ready to shoot the first animal he encounters.

As a means of fostering this interest the Club has decided to hold an annual competition and to award prizes for the finest heads submitted to the committee. The competition will also consider photographs of big game, both still and motion pictures, as trophies worthy of award.

Whitetail deer, second to world record. Head is owned by Academy of Natural Sciences, Phila.

The competitions will be open to everyone including members of the Boone and Crockett Club and professional as well as amateur hunters.

It is hoped that the three classes of competition will stimulate sportsmen to be more discriminating in their hunting, will provide an incentive to secure better trophies and suggest a definite purpose in lieu of the casual or random plans for a hunt. The awakened interest in outstanding examples of North American big game should arouse sportsmen to the importance of wise conservation policies. The magnificent mammals inherited as a national wildlife asset by this generation should be given jealous protection by the sportsman and nature lover lest future generations inherit a wasted natural resource. Whether one hunts, photographs, or merely looks, these animals are a priceless factor in a fuller life and once gone from the environment are gone forever.

The record Alaskan moose, taken on Kenai peninsula in 1938. In habitat group in the American Museum of Natural History

All entries must be submitted to the committee not later than December 31, 1947. The owners of heads selected for final evaluation by the judges will be notified of the deadline for delivery of these heads.

No charge will be made for entries of heads and horns.

Heads and horns must have been taken during the legal hunting season and by methods of fair chase to be acceptable for entry in the competition.

A medal of the Club will be given to each of the competitors placing first, second, and third in the three classes of competition. In addition to this a Certificate of Award, inscribed to the hunter or photographer and duly signed by the judges, will be sent or presented to each of the winning competitors.

Application blanks and further details for each competition may be secured by addressing the Boone and Crockett Club, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York 24, New York. ♦ ♦ ♦

Second largest mountain goat, taken by Wilson Potter in 1907. Nat. Coll. of Heads and Horns

FILMDOM'S FIREARMS MAY LOOK RIGHT, BUT AS OFTEN AS NOT THEY ARE CLEVER COPIES RENTED FROM FRITZ DICKIE, OWNER OF THE WORLD'S STRANGEST GUN ROOM

STRANGE GUNS *in* HOLLYWOOD

BY JACK POLLEXFEN

LAST TIME you saw a western epic, remember the scene where the grimly laconic hero casually demonstrated his ability to plug dimes dead center at fifty paces? Shooting backwards, naturally.

Then comes the next scene and he and a dozen other dead shots empty their six-guns at point-blank range with no visible effect—unless you count the way the noise is registered on the sound track.

Far be it from me to point a dark finger of suspicion—but I wouldn't be surprised to discover that a gentleman in Hollywood by the name of Frederick Dickie, who runs the Stembridge Gun Room, employs subversive agents to encourage such sad marksmanship. The Gun Room, you see, furnishes the great bulk of those blanks and guns—and the day movie killers start knocking each other over with the first shot, Dickie starts bookkeeping with red ink.

Half a dozen rooms in Paramount Studio, jammed tightly with gun racks and work benches, house Dickie's strange collection. The racks hold better than 7,000 firearms, ranging from the deadliest and latest developments of World War II to a 16th century ivory-inlaid matchlock.

Practically all studios turn to Dickie, both for guns and technical advice. Whether a picture calls for a brace of 1850 cap-and-ball pistols, an 18th century seven-barrel flintlock scattergun, or a small boy's air rifle, Dickie will rent it to them—and in case of an unusual or complicated weapon he will furnish firing instructions.

The biggest order Dickie has filled since the war was an urgent demand for 1,000 Colonial-era flintlock weapons—Brown Bess muskets, Kentucky rifles, dragoons, and single and double barrel pistols. They were wanted for a picture called "Unconquered"—and the director who wanted them was Cecil DeMille. "Fritz" Dickie started to sweat. DeMille has a fetish for authenticity in such matters of props—and he is also the Gun Room's best customer.

DeMille's flintlocks weren't a tough problem—they were impossible. A thousand real flintlocks were out of the question. Dickie knew better than try to get guns from collections and museums—it would be hopeless to wave checks in those quarters. Some other solution had to be found.

Fortunately, in the quarter of a century that the Gun Room has been renting weapons to the movie industry, several score authentic flintlock pieces of the Colonial era have found their way to Dickie's racks. He decided he had enough guns for the close shots. Gary Cooper and the other players who would be in the foreground could be given these weapons.

As for the extras, Dickie took hundreds of battered old rifles, mostly Enfields used by British troops in the Boer War and battles of even earlier vintage which had been picked up cheaply. He first added an extension tube to these out-dated

military rifles to give the barrel the extra length needed to simulate the long barrel of the Kentucky rifle. Only blanks would be used so no safety factor was involved. A new batch of stocks was carved out on jigsaws, using an authentic Colonial gunstock as a pattern. The final touch was a casting that duplicated the flintlock action. Now Dickie had guns which at a distance of a few feet were close enough to the real weapons to satisfy even DeMille.

Of course, one problem remained—but it was not Dickie's headache. DeMille and his assistants had to watch endlessly and warn the extras. Those rifles looked like a long rifle, you went through the motions of firing like a real Kentucky piece, they made a noise like old Daniel Boone's shooting iron —but they were still breech-loaders.

It would have been a bit embarrassing if any scenes had finally flickered onto a screen in which the buckskin pioneers fought their way through Cumberland Gap, pouring lead at the redskins with a type of breech-loading mechanism that wasn't to be invented for close to a century. DeMille doesn't like that kind of mistake.

Fritz Dickie looks over a portion of his huge collection, which includes approximately 7,000 weapons

Flintlocks are not the only type of conversion job that the Gun Room has tackled. In another section of the racks are a batch of Arabian guns with the ornate stocks and fantastically long barrels associated with the weapons of the Sheiks and their desert riders. It takes a second, and close, look to detect the fact that they are merely discarded military rifles—with some Dickie face-lifting treatment.

Rents on guns vary widely, according to the demand and investment. Run-of-the-mill weapons, such as a Colt .45 or a Springfield, bring two dollars or two dollars and fifty cents a week. Automatic weapons, say a Browning or a Schmeisser machine pistol, run twenty-five to thirty-five dollars per seven days. When a gun has to be made or converted specially for a picture—or bought specifically for a production—the price tag can run far higher. Guns are never sold, always rented.

The Gun Room deals also in an important by-product—blanks.

Dickie loads and sells the major portion of blanks fired in Hollywood, whether they are sprayed about a bank set with machine pistols by the Dillinger gang—blasted out in savage automatic rifle bursts by Marines storming a Pacific beachhead —or exploded, one by one, by buckskin-clad pioneers fighting off the Injuns stalking the settlement.

Westerns are Dickie's bread and butter. Gangster, war, and historical pictures come and go in cycles, but the posses and the outlaws keep their shootin' irons smoking season in, season out.

In this shot from DeMille's "Reap the Wild Wind," actor Lynn Overman holds a six-shot pepperbox pistol. These were favorites during Gold Rush days

About 250,000 blanks are sold yearly. These blanks are all custom-made. Many cartridge cases have been specially shaped and tooled to operate in freak weapons—which may range from the sixteen-shot Henry, the first repeating rifle introduced to the Plains Indians and described by them as the "white man's gun that loads at breakfast and shoots 'til sundown"—to the type of blank that successfully simulates the fire of one of the Japanese so-called "knee" mortars.

All motion picture blanks present certain complications that ordinary blanks lack. In the first place, powder loads vary greatly, both in explosive power and type of powder.

If the script calls for 17th century pirates attacking a Spanish galleon, naturally smokeless powder would be a faux pas. But that's the least of Dickie's problems. Most of his charges contain carefully worked out but varying percentages of flash powder. The amount depends on the type of weapon, the nature of the scene, and whether it is night or day. Night shots, of course, call for the heaviest percentage of flash powder.

Then the question of noise comes up. If the cartridge is slated for use in a scene where the audience is supposed to listen to dialogue as the guns echo, a very light load, carefully calculated to make enough noise to be effective, but not so overwhelming as to drown out the dialogue, is used. Sometimes it is also necessary to use light loads when shots must be fired close to cattle and horses without stampeding the animals. Other outdoor scenes, when guns will be fired well away from the sound truck's mikes, will call for extra-heavy noise makers.

Remington supplies Dickie with a special cartridge case, made up to the movie expert's specifications. He calls it the five-in-one. With various crimpings, by means of tools Dickie has designed, the one cartridge case works successfully in the .38-40, .44-40, and .45 Colt revolver, and the .38-40 and .44-40 rifle. The five-in-one produces about two-thirds of the shots that sound out from the silver screens.

Dickie also carries in stock the cases of all standard U. S. cartridges. He makes no attempt to stock up on European or freak brass. It is much more practical to rebore the odd-size chamber to fit a standard American case. As Dickie's guns are only intended, normally, to fire blanks, this is a safe and comparatively simple process.

Incidentally, this practice of reboring the chamber without troubling about the barrel, is one more reason why old weapons demand a double-check before using. For years now theatrical costume companies have been using the same technique as this studio gunsmith. Occasionally some such collection gets broken up and finds its way to the general public. A modern cartridge slides neatly into the breech of one of these bored out antiques, fits and fires easily—and that's all, brother!

The most difficult motion picture problem involving blanks is the operation of automatic weapons. A jam is avoided in a studio with almost the same care as it should be avoided in combat. Production costs, on an average scene, run about $1,000 an hour while the cameras are turning. A big battle scene, with hundreds of extras, can easily run to ten times that figure. So a single jam, at a crucial moment, can run into serious money.

Dickie's method of making practically any type of automatic weapon fire blanks as smoothly as if the gun had been originally designed for that purpose is simple in theory—but calls for skill and experience in practice. He first plugs the barrel, leaving a small hole as a vent. Then it merely becomes a matter of calculating the exact powder charge to produce the proper gas to keep the weapon operating smoothly. It's simple enough, but sometimes even Dickie has to experiment for weeks to get a gun in the proper balance. Of course, in the case of foreign weapons, there is also likely to be a problem of reboring some of the mechanism.

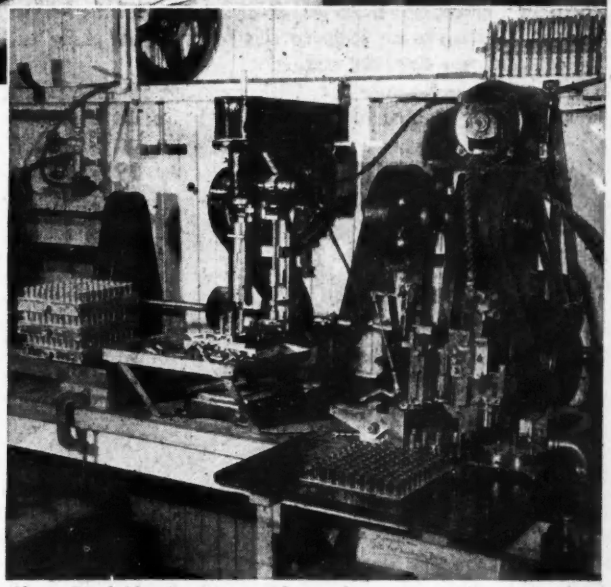
Dickie has 210 machine guns, machine pistols, and automatic rifles, all of them registered—which should be enough fire power to give him a seat at the next international disarmament conference. Incidentally, when he was registering his guns, he had the legal experts going around in circles trying to decide if a Gatling gun falls into the automatic classification. Fritz has several highly polished brass specimens of these early machine guns. The experts finally decided that the many-barreled weapon, with its crank firing device, was a repeating and not an automatic weapon—so you can keep all the Gatling guns you wish in the closet.

The bulk of the automatics have been plugged and are useless except for noise and flash effects. But tucked away in a vault is the "hot stuff"—a grim battery of Thompsons, Stens, Schmeissers, and half a score more compact packages of fire power. And "hot stuff" does have its use in movie-making.

These are the guns that are called for when machine gun bullets must rake a set—turning some gangster's hideaway into a sieve. These occasional bursts of automatic fire are about the only time Dickie's guns ever sound off with ball ammunition.

Incidentally the Gun Room, which rents its space from Paramount Studios, is well enough stocked so it is in no great buying mood. About the only thing Dickie wants badly now are certain U. S. World War II guns, such as the M1 carbine—but the government has not declared such weapons surplus yet, and while Dickie has obtained a permit to purchase any that become available, red tape so far has been too much.

One last thing—the sixty-four dollar question. How did Fritz Dickie become Hollywood's number-one gunman. It is very simple. He keeps a carefully indexed file at his side, going back many years, of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN. ◆◆◆



Above: Stembridge Gun Room employees clean weapons after use by one of the studios. Average rentals are about two dollars per gun. Below: Dickie uses these reloading tools to turn out special blank cartridges in quantity

CAST BULLETS AT 4760!

By AL BARR

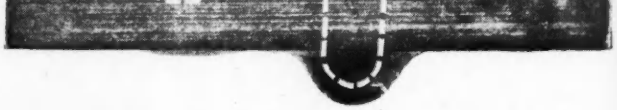
CAST BULLETS AT a recorded velocity of 4760 feet per second! At least that is the velocity Roy Weatherby's Potter chronograph registered for .220 Swift cartridges made up of 29 grain Kirksite "A" bullets cast by Robert Hutton and a powder charge worked up by the NRA Technical Division. The article by Mr. Hutton in the September, 1947, RIFLEMAN covered tests with Kirksite "A" bullets in a number of different calibers. We have followed his investigations to see just how much velocity could be obtained with this alloy.

Some of the results obtained by trying about 140 of these light bullets in a standard Model 70 Winchester rifle in .220 Swift caliber are rather amazing. The bullet chronographed was the Cramer No. 60A gas-check bullet, weighing 29 grains when made of Kirksite "A." The other load components were 40.00 grains of No. 3031 powder, Winchester cases, and 120 Winchester primers. Bullets were lubricated and .046 inch thick Ipco wads were used.

This same cartridge load has been fired for accuracy at 100 yards, using a 2½X hunting scope. The biggest group was 5.32 inches and several other groups with the same load went into two and one-half to three and one-half inches.

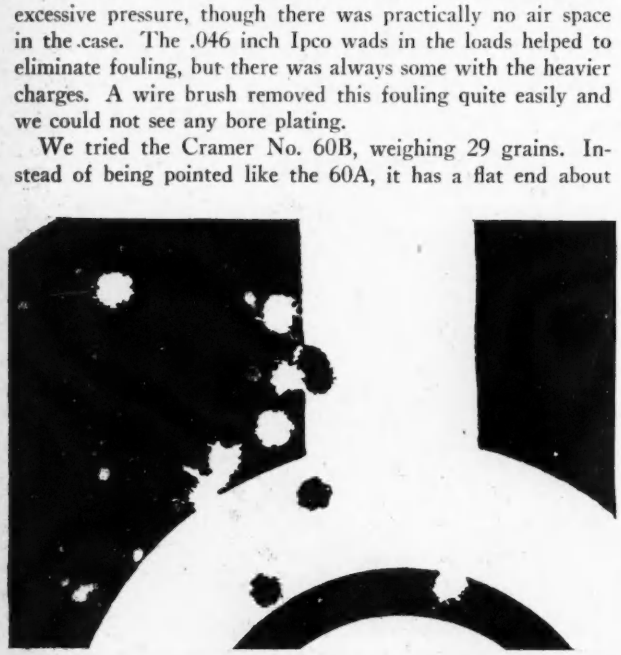
For one test we tried four different powder charges, using No. 3031 powder. These were 37.0, 38.0, 41.0, and 42.0 grains. The bullets were sized to the groove diameter of .224 inch. The groups were: 2.08 inch, 3.00 inch (4 in 1.70), 2.38 inch (4 in 1.95), and 3.60 inch (4 in 1.05), in the order of the loads listed. Even the heaviest load did not show excessive pressure, though there was practically no air space in the case. The .046 inch Ipco wads in the loads helped to eliminate fouling, but there was always some with the heavier charges. A wire brush removed this fouling quite easily and we could not see any bore plating.

We tried the Cramer No. 60B, weighing 29 grains. Instead of being pointed like the 60A, it has a flat end about one-eighth inch in diameter. This bullet was selected for varmint shooting because with 37.0 grains of No. 3031 powder it seemed to be our most accurate combination. Judging from the one velocity test with a heavier load, the speed should be at least 4400 feet per second. We more or less expected this combination to be dynamite on chucks, but the first few shots proved to be disappointing. Shorter than normal shots were taken to be sure of placing the bullet in a vital area. All five shots were between 90 and 125 paces. On the closest shot a big chuck was hit squarely through the chest cavity, just below the shoulders. At the moment there was no evidence of a hit and the chuck made good time for about twenty feet downhill to its den. It finally stopped in the den, with the tip of its tail barely visible. The bullet did not expand, as the exit hole was just noticeably larger than bullet diameter.



Kirksite bullet does not possess same energy as factory load, as indicated by penetration in half-inch steel plate. Crater made by .220 Swift bullet of Kirksite (left) was only .24 inch deep (.425 inch diameter) while factory bullet penetrated .61 inch. Diameter of the crater is .365

Two other chucks were hit on consecutive shots. One appeared to go down immediately, but a thorough search in the foot-high grass revealed no signs of the animal or any visible signs of a kill, although we were *(Continued on page 41)*



This group was made with five .220 Swift factory loads and five Kirksite .220 loads. Low hits were made with Kirksite bullets in cold barrel

After Robert Hutton conducted the experiments with Kirksite "A" bullets which he reported in the December, 1946, and September, 1947, issues of THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, he cast some .220 Swift bullets of Kirksite and sent them to Al Barr, of the NRA Technical Staff. Barr worked up the powder charge for the Swift load and fired group tests with that cartridge. He then sent his loading data to Hutton, who had loads chronographed. The velocity was 4760 feet per second. In a recent letter to Barr, Hutton has this to say:

"I think that what we have learned by this test is that Kirksite "A" will stand any reasonable velocity, in any standard rifle, and accuracy, like that of any bullet, is possible if the loader will work hard enough on his individual rifle and then 'hold and squeeze.'

"So, let me congratulate you on devising the load and being the guy behind the rifle to shoot the fastest bullet that has been fired in a commercial cartridge case to date, in a standard rifle."

By PHILIP B. SHARPE

JOHN BROWNING'S PISTOLS

Browning's first model semi-auto pistol

The Colt .45 model of 1911 semi-auto

WHEN JOHN BROWNING DESIGNED AN ARM IT WAS GOOD. HERE IS THE STORY OF ONE OF THEM . . . THE FIRST SUCCESSFUL SEMIAUTOMATIC PISTOL, AND THE ANCESTOR OF OUR ARMY'S STANDARD .45

FIFTY YEARS AGO a new and very successful automatic pistol was born. It was the brainchild of John M. Browning, America's most prolific firearms inventor. With it was born a cartridge which, in that same half century, became one of the world's most popular.

Back in 1897, John Browning, an inventor with a long string of rifle actions already on his score sheet (mostly produced under the Winchester label) decided to develop an automatic pistol small enough for pocket use.

Many an invention has had a premature death because its designer failed to understand the problems of mass manufacture. Complicated machine work increases production costs. If a design is so complicated that it cannot be sold in a highly competitive market at a profit, it is quickly withdrawn. But Browning was an unusual inventor. He could invent a new weapon. Then he could manufacture a sample by hand in his experimental shop. Then he could top this by inventing special machinery to produce his brainchild in quantity.

On April 20, 1897, Browning's first American automatic pistol patent was granted. It was quickly protected by world patents, and Browning, then forty-two years old, began his plans for its production and sale throughout the world.

The life of Browning and his many developments has become so closely associated with Belgium that the big arms plant of that country is generally known as the "Browning Plant." However, it was not founded to produce Browning guns, as some writers have claimed. The Fabrique Nationale d'Armes de Guerre, at Herstal, Belgium, was established in 1889, not for Browning, but to produce 200,000 Model 1889 Mauser military rifles for the Belgian Government. The plant had grown into the production of military rifles for many other governments when it became interested in the American, John M. Browning.

Studying the world patents of Browning, the Belgian firm, now generally known under its trademark "FN," sent a representative to the United States to see the inventor. As a result of this visit, the first Browning pistol was produced at Herstal early in 1900. It was an almost immediate success.

The cartridge that Browning designed for his first model became world famous under two names—the 7.65 mm. Browning, and the .32 Automatic Pistol. The cartridge has, almost since its inception, been produced in every civilized country having an ammunition manufacturing plant.

Even before FN started the production of Browning's first model, he had designed another—a hammer type "military" model. The patent rights covering this were sold to Colt, and American production plans were started at the Hartford, Connecticut, factory. Again Browning designed a new cartridge, to be known as the .38 Colt Automatic. It is still manufactured, of course.

Both the Browning first model, produced in Belgium, and the second model, produced in the United States, came into production at about the same time. An interesting illustration in the writer's files is printed: "ANNOUNCEMENT—COLT'S AUTOMATIC HAMMERLESS PISTOL .38 Caliber." Added notes imprinted thereon say, "Paste facing Page 1616. Simmons Hardware Company. Will be on the market about September 1, 1899." However, the illustration is that of the forerunner of the old .38 Military, complete with external hammer and no safeties.

Despite the promised date, it was early in 1900 before the first of these Colt pistols came into production.

Paste Facing Page 1616.—SIMMONS HARDWARE CO.
ANNOUNCEMENT.
COLT'S AUTOMATIC HAMMERLESS PISTOL
HALF SIZE.
.38 Caliber.
Will be on the Market about September 1, 1899.

Browning's second pistol, produced by Colt in 1900. The lower illustration is from a catalog insert of May, 1899. Despite the caption, it is the old military model with outside hammer. Note similarity to modern Colt

These two guns are interesting predecessors of our present-day automatics. Browning's first model was a true hammerless. Most later models called "hammerless" and produced by both Colt and FN are actually internal-hammer types, with the hammer mechanism concealed by the frame.

The most confusing elements in the life of the student of firearms history are the contradictory statements of writers. The first model of a Browning pistol is no exception. In 1942 the Browning Arms Company of St. Louis published an interesting booklet entitled "A History of Browning Guns."

In discussing this first model, the booklet states:

"Two hundred and fifty thousand of these pistols were manufactured in the first six years . . . By July, 1912, one million of these pistols had been made without a change of any kind. This achievement went down in history as the first time this many pistols of the same type and with no change in parts had ever been produced."

Those statements are open to argument. In my collection is what I believe to be one of the first guns of this model produced. Accompanying the data in the Browning booklet is a photograph of this first model.

The NRA Book of Small Arms, Volume I—Pistols and Revolvers, on page 220, illustrates this gun. The two photographs are different. And my specimen bearing serial number 861A shows still further differences.

The two "first model" pictures in the Browning and NRA books show what appears to be a side plate above the trigger guard on the frame. Actually this was a machined flat and is part of the receiver or frame. In the pictures mentioned, this extends slightly to the rear of the trigger pin, with a rounded bottom corner and straight rear side. On the original production model, this flat ended about one-half inch in front of the trigger pin and its rear edge slanted forward and upward. It did not extend downward to the guard portion of the frame. The change was made to the larger size within a few months of its introduction, chiefly through simplified machine practices.

The second change was in the shape of the cocking indicator at the front of the rear sight base. My original is shaped somewhat differently and did not project beyond the base. It would indicate in daylight whether the gun was cocked or uncocked, but the mid-1900 change pictured by others permits this cocking indicator to project beyond the front of the base so that a touch of the finger would determine the status of the action.

An additional third minor change appears in the safety. The original safety has three concentric rings, like a bullseye. A manufacturing change altered this to machine checking. This is believed to be the first change, since the original Belgian manual accompanying the new guns illustrates this.

The fourth change in external appearance was in the hard rubber grips. The FN pistols generally known to the public have the famous "FN" trademark in the oval. The original gun is unique in that it is probably the only pistol made wearing its own picture. A relief model of the pistol appears on the grip in the usual oval, and this model, in turn, also bears a relief model in the oval of its own grip. The latter tiny model is less than one-sixteenth inch long! A different kind of FN monogram appears in the oval.

The original gun is marked on the slide: "Fabrique Nationale Herstal Liege" and on the receiver plate is a reproduction of the grip oval with a sketch of the gun and the FN monogram. Below is the patent data "Breveté S.D.G.D."

Later productions of this model are marked with the full name of the maker, and "Browning's Patent."

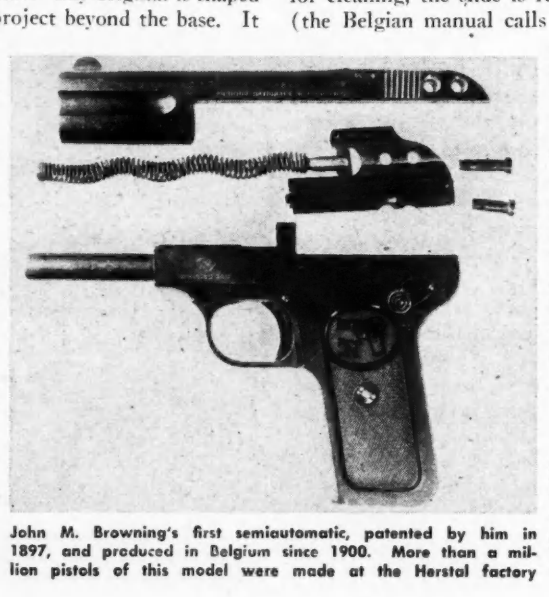
The fifth and final change was the addition of a lanyard loop to the lower left rear side of the frame, which necessitated removal of a lower rear corner of the left grip. This additional touch is interesting in a pocket pistol. Possibly they were used as holster weapons by European police departments.

So much for external changes. The interior or working parts also show a few alterations, again in the interests of production machining. The original barrel was threaded into the receiver. Some later versions were pressed and pinned. The original operating rod was machined with flats on both sides over half of its length to fit the slot of the guide. Later this was abandoned in favor of a round rod—this necessitating enlargement of the slot in the guide.

Thus, the announcement of no changes from start of production through its twelve-year life span is incorrect. All of this does not detract from the importance of the gun.

It is interesting to note that this first model Browning is probably the only pistol ever produced which needed tools for the disassembly required by simple cleaning. In later Browning models, the slide also serves as the breechlock, and is usually a single-piece machined forging. On the original model it is a separate piece. The recoil spring is above the barrel on the original design—below in later types. To disassemble for cleaning, the slide is removed from the frame or receiver (the Belgian manual calls it the *carcasse*) by removing two screws from the left rear of the slide. The latter is then pulled forward from the frame and the breechlock remains in its closed position. To remove the breechlock assembly, it is necessary to grasp the recoil spring in front of the guide, compress it slightly, and lift upward, freeing the spring and its enclosed rod from the guide. The block, spring, and rod may then be withdrawn to the rear, permitting the barrel to be cleaned from either end.

The safety is unique in many ways. It locks the trigger in the conventional manner when the lever is turned upwards, whether or not the piece is cocked. It also prevents the slide from being drawn to the rear when in this "on" po-



John M. Browning's first semiautomatic, patented by him in 1897, and produced in Belgium since 1900. More than a million pistols of this model were made at the Herstal factory

sition. And it has an additional feature. If the gun is loaded and cocked, the slide may be withdrawn one-quarter inch to the rear and the safety applied. This locks the breech in this position so that a cartridge *partly* in the chamber may be carried with absolute safety. Pressing downward on the safety lever releases the breech, which then closes, quickly making the weapon ready for action.

As in later Browning designs, the action of this first model is simple and practical. However, it is unlike American Browning designs in that the conventional rotating hammer is missing. A light firing pin about one-quarter inch in diameter is permitted to float in the breechblock. The pin is slotted to admit the finger of an arm pinned to and suspended from the front of the fixed rear sight base. The recoil spring rod is pinned about one third of the way down from the top of this arm.

The recoil spring serves the dual purpose of absorbing the recoil of the straight blowback action plus the duties of a hammer spring. In functioning the piece, the rearward travel of the slide and breechblock engages a sear notch in the lower rear of the firing pin with the sear mechanism in the receiver. The compressed spring then carries the slide and breechblock to a closed position.

Four unique Browning pistols in the NRA collection. All of these are mechanically of pure Browning design, and differ only in minor characteristics. They were made at the Browning factory at Herstal, Belgium, but all bear the Mauser trademark. The facts of their origin can only be guessed at. They are evidently not production models, and may have been samples made up experimentally with the idea of producing pistols of Browning design in German factories. It is known that a close tie-in existed between the Browning and Mauser firms, since the founding of the Herstal plant in 1889 for the express purpose of making 200,000 Mauser rifles for the Belgian government.—J. S. H.

In the writer's first model, the recoil spring is composed of 56½ turns of .039-inch piano wire coiled to an outside diameter of .31 inch. Its compressed length, with the mechanism uncocked, is three and one-half inches, yet despite compression for forty-seven years, its free length is six and five-eighths inches. With the firing pin cocked, the spring is further compressed to three and three-sixteenths inches, and in the full-recoil position this is still further reduced to two and three-quarter inches. These figures speak eloquently for the quality of materials John Browning specified for his first pistol.

Total weight of this first model is twenty ounces, less magazine, twenty-one and one-half ounces with empty magazine, and twenty-four ounces fully loaded with eight .32 caliber cartridges. The magazine holds but seven rounds, but another may be carried in the chamber.

The slide, when removed, proves to be a single piece of forged and machined steel without additional parts except for the simple half-moon front sight blade. The slide weighs five and one-half ounces. The breechlock assembly, consisting of the block, firing pin, operating arm and recoil spring and rod weighs three and one-half ounces; total weight of recoiling parts is nine ounces. Thus, the recoiling parts weigh more than one-third of the total weight of the fully loaded gun and almost one-half of the total weight of the empty gun less magazine.

The machine work on my specimen is about as perfect as one could desire. Parts fit more closely than in most modern weapons. The pistol came in an imitation leather-covered fitted fiber case lined with green plush and satin. The case holds the pistol, one spare magazine, a blued steel cleaning rod, and a combination screwdriver for dismantling the piece. The precision-machined screwdriver has a thumbscrew-locked, double-ended blade—the screwdriver blade fitting the slide takedown screws, and the opposite end fitting the special stock screw nuts. Brass hinges and latches and an inside padded satin cover protect the contents.

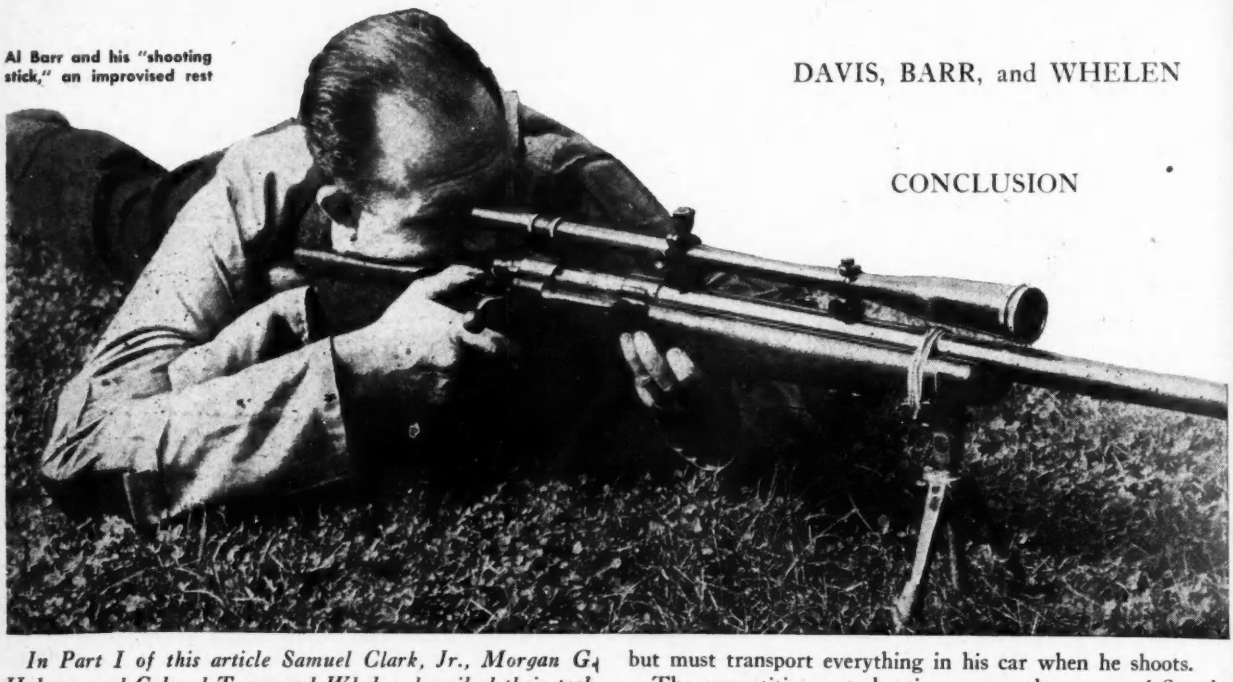
Browning's first model really launched the automatic pistol into popularity. His 7.65 mm. cartridge has been used in several hundred different makes and models of pistols *and* revolvers in all countries. In 1906 he designed the 6.35 mm. automatic pistol and cartridge, known here as the .25 Automatic. In 1907 he designed the 9 mm. Short cartridge, sold here as the .380, and the 9 mm. Browning Long, which is sold only in Europe. The latter is about midway in length between the 9 mm. Browning Short and the 9mm Parabellum (Luger).

Even the U. S. Government .45 caliber pistol cartridge is a Browning design. Working on his Colt .38 Military Model, which was actually adopted by the Swedish and Norwegian Governments, Browning developed the .45 Automatic cartridge with a 200-grain bullet. Colt first produced a gun for this in 1905, and following Army tests, a new design was worked out by Browning. At the same time the bullet weight was increased to 230 grains. The cartridge and new pistol were officially adopted by the United States in 1911, and have remained our standard official sidearm for thirty-six years.

Since this first Browning pistol was introduced, millions have been made. How many additional millions of imitations, both cheaply built and well constructed, have been produced throughout the world will never be known. But this much may be said:

From Browning's first pistol to his last, every model was practical—to build and to use. ♦ ♦ ♦

BENCH-REST TECHNIQUE



Al Barr and his "shooting stick," an improvised rest

DAVIS, BARR, and WHELEN

CONCLUSION

In Part I of this article Samuel Clark, Jr., Morgan G. Holmes, and Colonel Townsend Whelen described their techniques of using permanently-installed bench rests. Colonel Whelen introduces the second and concluding portion of the article by masters of bench-rest shooting.

BEFORE I OWNED my own range and could install a permanent bench rest, I did my experimental shooting in the prone position with a forearm or barrel rest similar to that used, and described below, by Mr. Davis. Soon, however, I fell under the influence of Mann and Niedner, and began using the Niedner Chuck Rest. This is a long, pointed, tubular rod that can be driven into the ground, with a spool, adjustable up and down, on which to rest the forearm or barrel. But other portable rests can be used. Al Barr shoots with one of these. Even a foot-high, stout stake driven into the ground, against which one touches the backs of the fingers of the left hand when firing in the prone position with the sling, will steady the rifle and insure small groups. Indeed this method is very valuable in determining exact sight adjustment for shooting prone with a sling.

In these prone rest positions I found that I could usually shoot small groups, but without an *exact* uniformity in the location of the center of impact, and that even getting up from the ground between series of shots would usually alter the center of the group a little.

From these forms of prone rest shooting, it was a great relief to come to the more comfortable and convenient bench rest with which one soon learns to assume an extremely uniform position, particularly if the rest is his own with dimensions and feel always the same. Besides, at the bench rest one can shoot in his Sunday-best clothes. But these prone rests are very handy, particularly for the shooter who has no range but must transport everything in his car when he shoots.

The competitive rest shooting among the group of Seattle riflemen, which Mr. Davis described in the January, 1947, AMERICAN RIFLEMAN (page 30) and which, incidentally, was won by him, was very informative to all of us. Particularly did that competition give a good comparison between the rifles and ammunition used. One thing which seemed to stand out very clearly was the superiority of the 8-S bullet, and we learned an important lesson there. How good are our postwar manufactured bullets going to be? Rest shooting will tell us.

When bench-rest shooting becomes better known and the technique improves, permitting a more thorough elimination of the human error, such competitions as those conducted at Seattle will become more and more valuable. They would seem to give a perfect answer to the doubting Thomases. (It is well, once in a while, to have things verified before witnesses.) There should be no restriction as to the type of rest used, but it might be well to include in a match a score fired prone from the same rifle, thus restricting the shooting to practical rifles. I have always felt that the rifle was a weapon to use in the field, and that the best rifle was the one that would strike the smallest target at the longest distance the first shot. I can see little of interest in the rest shooting of seventy-five years ago with twenty-pound rifles. It was merely a test of rifling systems and ammunition, and such a test can be made far better with a Mann "V" rest and barrel.

For some years I have noted that Al Barr of the NRA Technical Division has been consistently getting remarkably small groups in testing the many different rifles he is required to give information on. I have seen literally hundreds of them, mostly five-shot groups, of a minute or under, and

possibly several dozen of three-fourths of a minute or under. As Barr states, he prefers the permanently installed, steady bench rest when he can get it. But his use of the bipod rest fastened to the forearm by rubber bands and otherwise shooting prone is very interesting and useful. He and other riflemen often use this bipod rest even in woodchuck shooting. Barr states that, when he obtains a precise sight adjustment with it on the range, he can carry it afield with the assurance that the rifle will shoot the same there. He feels that with the prone position and sling there may be enough of a variation to cause misses on chucks at 300 yards and over. With his bipod rest he has made more hits on chucks at 300 yards and over than anyone I know. But for myself a bipod rest in the field seems rather artificial.

Up to date my studies seem to indicate that the most uniform, and hence the most reliable, results can be obtained with the regularly constructed bench rest such as Mr. Samuel Clark, Jr., described in Part I (October RIFLEMAN). My testing also has shown that when a well-padded forearm rest is used the sight adjustments determined will closely agree with those required when firing the rifle in the hands. By repeatedly shooting from my bench, then immediately lying down alongside it and shooting prone with a tight sling, and comparing the average size of the groups fired in each position, the influence of the sling on center of impact can be determined fairly well. Except with featherweight rifles and sling swivels bound to the barrel, the difference for me has never exceeded one to two minutes, which is not the same as the four to five minutes reported by some others. I would like to know how they determined it?

I have never yet seen a rifle that would shoot to exactly the same center of impact every time it was fired prone with the sling. If we had such rifles there would be no need for the sighting shots which invariably precede all record scores in small-bore shooting. We can come closest to shooting to the same center of impact every time with a bench rest. Perhaps by improving our technique we can finally do it, then the errors of rifle and ammunition will stand alone and we can work to reduce these.

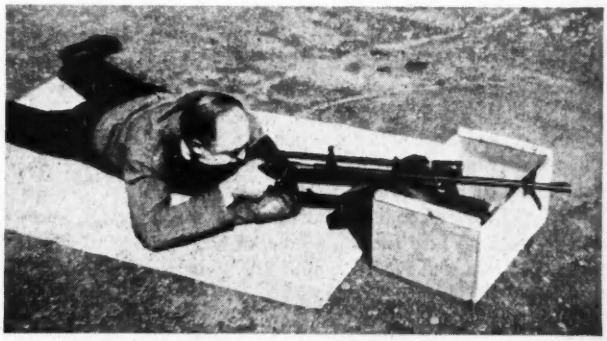
We do not have the finished technique here as yet (there may be no one best way), but we hope that this presentation will provide a good basis on which to work. As the years roll along we also hope that other experimenters, who seemingly have eliminated most of the human error, will give us the benefit of their experience. Some day, by eliminating the human error, we may learn to make rifles and ammunition which will shoot through the tackhole.—TOWNSEND WHELEN.

The Technique of James I. Davis

It would be stretching the imagination a little too far to consider myself a "rest" shooter, since I have never owned a bench rest nor used one to any great extent. Having "hit the line" on the small-bore circuit for more than two decades, I am able to hold a rifle in the prone position, with sling, very nearly as well as with any kind of a rest. Consequently, I have had little use for one.

In my opinion, rest shooting has little value in the training of a rifleman, and I do not think it should be adopted generally as a competitive form of shooting, as it was at one time. You might shoot from a rest for years and perfect your technique to a high degree, but it would be of no value to you in any other position. On the other hand, a good prone or four-position shooter will make good groups from a rest on his first try. He has learned how to handle a rifle under almost any condition, and rest shooting requires no special skill that is not possessed by any good small-bore or military rifleman. It has no value in field shooting, except to certain types of "varmint" hunters. You cannot carry a rest with you, and usually game gives you no time to use it if you could. It does have a value to the expert rifleman and the habitual experimenter for testing rifles and loads.

My own purpose in shooting is to win rifle matches and to kill game cleanly—with one shot if possible. The extent of my rest shooting consists of two or three turkey shoots a year, an occasional match which prescribes the rest position, and some testing of handloads. I am neither a "wildcat" fan nor a "scientific" experimenter. Most of my shooting is confined to the three calibers which I have found to be the most



James I. Davis, who says a small-bore shooter can make good groups at the bench but a bench-rest shooter can't always hold his own in a small-bore match, prefers to use a notched apple crate instead of an "artificial" rest when firing accuracy tests with a rifle and load

accurate, and best suited to my purposes—the .22 Long Rifle, .220 Swift, and .30-'06. When someone brings out a "better" cartridge, I usually try it out in the hope that it actually is. All cartridges except those I have mentioned and the .257 have been discarded to date as being no better for my purposes than these. I am not using the .257 at present because no bullets having suitable accuracy are available.

I have learned from experience that small-bore rifles tested from any kind of a rest may perform in an entirely different manner when fired in other positions. Hence, these rifles and ammunition are always tested in the regular prone position under actual shooting conditions. I prefer to test other calibers in the same way, but when testing several rifles, or a large batch of handloads when time is limited, the rest saves both time and energy. The last group is fired under very nearly the same conditions as the first one, and comparisons are more accurate.

Having no truck to transport a bench rest to the range each time I wish to shoot (if left overnight it would be destroyed by vandals), it has been necessary to use whatever facilities were available. Sometimes I use nothing except the shooting box with a glove laid on top for padding, but usually I carry an apple box with notches cut in the sides as shown in the photograph. It is weighted with stones and padded with an old innertube, canvas, or whatever is handy. Shooting is done in the prone position, with the left arm under the rifle and the left hand under the toe of the stock as in the usual

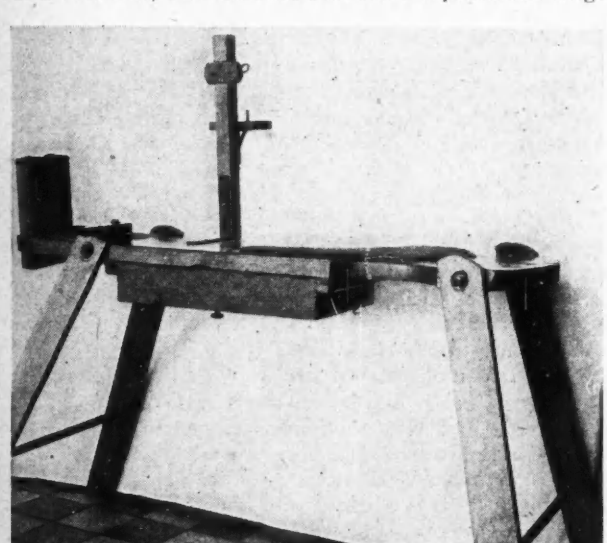
bench-rest position. It is just as steady as the bench rest and the box can be prepared in about ten minutes and is easily carried in a car. A little experimenting may be necessary to determine the right height for the kind of padding you use.

In rest shooting, as in every other position, you should take time to get into position properly, placing your equipment within reach, making whatever adjustments are necessary to be comfortable and seeing that everything is ready so that you will not have to move after starting a string of shots. If you do have to move before finishing the string, you might as well start it all over again. You will probably have two groups if you get back into position and try to finish the string.

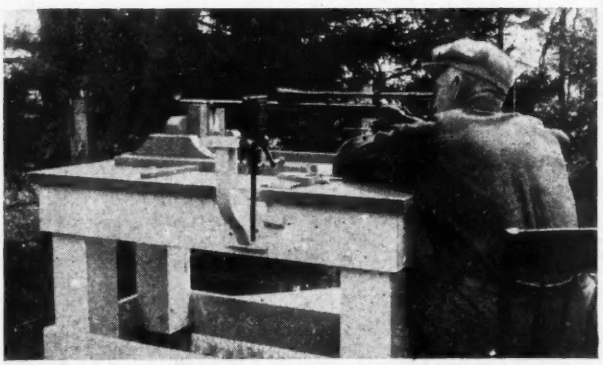
To sum it up, if you are a good prone shot, you know how to handle a rifle and rest shooting will have no difficulties for you. If not, the quickest and most thorough way to learn is by getting into the small-bore game—not just plinking around, but serious practice, competition, and study of it. I use all kinds of rifles, but 80 percent of my knowledge of rifles and skill in handling them has come from the small-bore rifle. They are the most sensitive and difficult to handle of all, and the man who masters the game thoroughly will find any other rifle shooting easy in comparison. He will have the habit of *uniformity,* and accuracy in rifle shooting is wrapped up almost 100 percent in that one word. Given a good rifle, there is little doubt that when fired with cartridges identical in every respect, and under conditions identical in every respect, every bullet would go into the same hole, or very nearly so. The nearer you can achieve such uniformity in the loading and handling of a rifle, the smaller your groups will be. All the rest shooting I have seen has been almost completely dominated by men who are, or have been, top-notch small-bore riflemen. There may be something in that.—JAMES I. DAVIS.

The Technique of Al Barr

There are several kinds of bench-rest shooting, but only one from which small groups can consistently be made so as to prove the absolute performance of a rifle or a cartridge. This is a solid, well-anchored rest where a permanent range is possible. From this rest the shooter takes a careful, uniform position each time, with the body at the same angle to the line of fire. The forearm support can be put in the same position for each shot, with the adjustable forearm support at the correct height to afford a comfortable, relaxed position. The butt of the rifle is placed at exactly the same spot on the shoulder with the V-block for the toe of the stock (when one is used) properly adjusted. The right hand grips the small of the stock with the same amount of pressure, and at the same place each time. If sights are properly aligned when the trigger is pulled, a good shot is on its way.



This is the bench rest from which C. W. Rowland sought for the ultimate in accuracy (see "The Man Behind the Gun" in October RIFLEMAN)



Bench rests are as different as shooters. This solidly-constructed rest is used by Harvey Donaldson, designer of the .219 Donaldson-Wasp

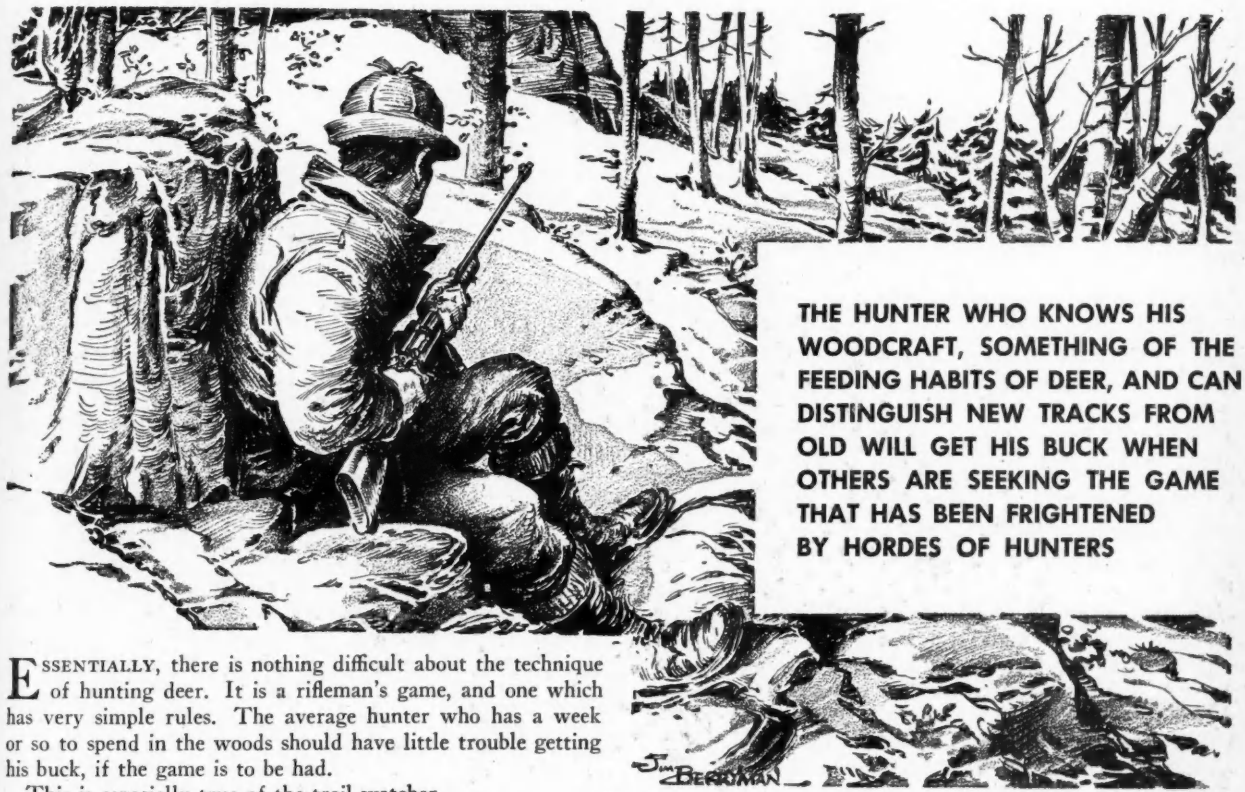
But unfortunately a carefully laid out range and permanent rest are not always available and a portable rest may be a necessity. Then good groups are far more dependent on the shooter and the practice required to obtain uniform results. Where dozens of different rifles are group-fired for accuracy, it is not always possible to have a special forearm support for each type. Too, we cannot be too fussy about a slight variation in a light-to-heavy trigger pull. What we do is adopt the uniform position and concentrate on the shooting. From this type of testing we know that an absolutely permanent rest and special fittings are not necessary to get small groups.

Sometimes even a portable rest is not always possible. Then there is a simpler method, one that perhaps is even better. At least it places us in the position, and the rifle zero is the same, used for practically all varmint shooting. It is the use of a small two-legged "shooting stick" with the conventional V-block to support the forearm just forward of the sling swivel. This block is supported by an adjustable vertical stem which in turn rests on two small legs, six inches long, set at approximately a 35 to 45 degree angle. This position places the shooter as low as possible to the ground in the conventional prone position. Particularly does this position lend itself to uniform support for heavy caliber rifles which develop much recoil. This control is an important factor for uniformly small groups.

The low position with the shooting stick has been responsible for many of the smallest consistent groups with many types of rifles. For me it is better than the clumsy, conventional portable rests, and the next best thing to a permanent bench rest. The shooting stick is so compact that it is carried, attached to the rifle by means of several rubber bands over the barrel, at all times when in the field for a little varmint shooting. One of these was described on page twenty-six of the August, 1944, AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.—AL BARR.

...THE TRAIL WATCHERS...

By FRANCIS E. SELL



THE HUNTER WHO KNOWS HIS WOODCRAFT, SOMETHING OF THE FEEDING HABITS OF DEER, AND CAN DISTINGUISH NEW TRACKS FROM OLD WILL GET HIS BUCK WHEN OTHERS ARE SEEKING THE GAME THAT HAS BEEN FRIGHTENED BY HORDES OF HUNTERS

ESSENTIALLY, there is nothing difficult about the technique of hunting deer. It is a rifleman's game, and one which has very simple rules. The average hunter who has a week or so to spend in the woods should have little trouble getting his buck, if the game is to be had.

This is especially true of the trail watcher.

Most hunters conjure up visions of still hunting when they think of deer. Still hunting is a wonderful sport, but in heavily hunted territory it is almost out of the question. Other hunters too often disrupt your plans.

To be ideal, still hunting territory must be remote, where other hunters are seldom encountered. In order to develop the hunt the lone stalker must have the cover to himself. This unfortunately is seldom the case. The woods are full of hunters. Game is none too plentiful, and there is a lot of competition for what game there is. But even under these conditions, the average once-a-year hunter can take game.

The essential requirement is a knowledge of the game's reaction to an army of hunters. This, plus the ability to remain perfectly quiet over extended periods of time, will produce some worthwhile bucks.

Deer, once they have been given a bum's rush by an armed horde of hunters on opening day, have their feeding and bedding habits badly disrupted. There are no more of their casual feeding periods during the daylight hours of early morning and late evening. Deer behave very differently during the gunning season. Hunting them under such conditions is a very different thing from that which obtains where the riflemen are few and deer are not constantly being alarmed.

Examine the implication of such a setup and we find that now, instead of dealing with game which feeds and moves about a great deal during the day, we have animals that are nocturnal in habit. They no longer bed near their feeding grounds. They take to the most inaccessible parts of their range to lie up during the daylight hours.

One hunter with whom I have spent a lot of time in the woods turns this to good advantage. He watches the trails. I have never known him to not fill his tag, even when the woods were crowded with hunters. The territory where he usually hunts is easily reached from town. There are plenty of hunters. Deer are hard to find in the densely covered hill country. But all this in no way interferes with this hunter. He takes deer.

His system is simplicity itself. He knows that the feeding and bedding habits of the game have been disrupted. They are bedding farther in the woods. They are moving greater distances to feed at night.

Most of the feeding in this section is in old abandoned orchards and logging slashes. The favorite feeding grounds are the old orchards. Here the twisted lichen-covered trees produce a crop of wormy apples each autumn. The deer will return to feed on them at night, regardless of how far they

have moved out to avoid hunters during the day. This is true to a lesser extent of the browse in the overgrown logging slashes.

In going to and from such feeding grounds, deer will have definitely established routes. Where the cover is overrun with hunters the sportsman may just as well spend his time establishing these routes to and from the feeding and bedding territory. It is more profitable than attempting to hunt during the day. The only sticker to watching for the game in the feeding grounds during the late evening or early morning is their change in feeding habits. Now, as the result of the hunting pressure, they are feeding at night. But, even with the game feeding after dark, there are opportunities for the rifleman to get his shot if he has definitely established the routes they are using to and from their bedding and feeding grounds.

That was the method used by the old hunter. Instead of watching the orchard and logging slashes, as many other hunters did, you would find him intercepting the game before it reached these places.

He knew that the game was on its feet and moving before dark. But they avoided coming into the more open feeding ground while there was still shooting light. There was a subtle bit of timing in their approach which brought them out just after dark.

It was only a matter of establishing the stand far enough from the feeding ground so that the game would pass it while it was still light. Sometimes the old hunter would spend a couple of evenings watching. But eventually something worth while would come along. While the other hunters bemoaned their lack of hunting success, he showed up in camp with a nice buck each autumn.

Last fall he spent only two evenings watching before he turned up in camp with a four pointer. He made no secret of his method of getting game. But the whole thing was so simple it failed to impress the other hunters. They wanted something more in line with the traditional stories of deer hunting, some complicated woodcraft technique only learned after years of hunting.

About all the inexperienced hunter needs to know if he would be successful at this type of hunting is the trails. If he has the ability to distinguish between old and fresh tracks, the problem is not difficult. A fresh track of a deer has many of the characteristics of any other fresh track. It is subjected to the same weathering influences as the track of a man.

Almost anyone would be able to tell whether the track of a man is fresh or several days old, if he found it in a vacant lot, in a garden, or on the snow of a sidewalk. What is true of *that* track is true of a game track. A hunter could live in the woods until his whiskers were long enough to polish his rifle stock, and I doubt that the time would add one iota to the accuracy with which he could estimate the age of game tracks.

In looking at a deer track, the hunter may gather a lot of information. Suppose that the tracks are on a trail. They lead out of the heavy cover toward a burn. An equal number of prints also return along this trail. Is there anything complicated about such observations, anything which the average inexperienced hunter cannot readily ascertain? There is nothing here the city hunter should miss.

Quite obviously the trail is being used by game moving out to feed and in returning to their bedding grounds. The next fact to ascertain is the territory in which the game is lying up for the day. This is easily done by backtracking into the heavy cover along the trail. When it is found that the tracks are turning away from the main traveled trail, it is fairly certain that the deer have moved off the trail to lie up for the day. Usually such bedding grounds are in the heavy thickets of cedar, witch hazel, hemlock, huckleberry brush, or other low-growing cover.

Once the trail has been established, along with the feeding and bedding ground, the rest is comparatively easy. The stand must be selected with two things in mind. First: Visibility along the trail in the direction from which the game will ordinarily come. Secondly, it must be selected with due regard to wind drift. On this last the rifleman can become confused fairly easily. During the day the wind is usually uphill. Warm air is rising along the ridges and higher ground, creating an uphill draft. But during the late evening the higher ground is the first to cool, and conditions become just the reverse. The lower ground retains some of the day's warmth, and the air currents tend to move downhill. The rifleman must keep these things in mind in selecting a stand.

Once the hunter is on his stand, he should remain perfectly quiet. As he values the success of his hunting, he cannot expect to move around. Game animals can detect movement almost at once. But the immobile hunter is in effect invisible.

A fire on a stand is a dead giveaway. During an orthodox drive, with enough hunters beating the brush, deer can be forced across such a stand. But where a lone hunter is waiting for a deer to cross of its own initiative, a fire is decidedly poor policy.

In watching a runway far enough into the woods so that the deer is moving over it before the shooting light is gone, the hunter has the problem of returning to his camp after dark. This is easily done by blazing a few trees along the return route, and by using a compass to establish the direction during the day. For a light to walk by, there is nothing more handy than the small miner's carbide light.

Those are the simple requirements of trail watching during the late evening. There are no esoteric principles which it takes years to learn. I know of no other method which is more profitable.

Trail watching in heavily hunted territory need not be confined to the feeding period. It can be used to good advantage by the lone hunter during the day. He can intercept game which other hunters have put out of the cover.

Deer territory is not uniformly populated by game. There are sections which are more or less barren. These are interspersed with sections which carry a heavy game population. But all the area is connected by a system of game trails which the deer use in moving over the territory.

When the cover is heavily hunted by an army of sportsmen, there is a constant movement of game along the runways leading from the security of the thickets in one section to the heavily wooded cover of another section.

A study of the country should show the hunter the

logical places where the deer cross when put up in a given territory. There are passes between ranges of hills through which the game move when put up on the slopes below. A narrow neck of land between a lake and swamp is a good bet. Any place which tends to be a logical route between two pieces of cover is an excellent stand to watch.

I know a stand on a pass in a range of low hills where at least twenty whopping big bucks have been taken. West of this stand there is about four square miles of cover. Any deer jumped in this and kept moving by hunters, as they usually are, eventually works its way over this stand.

During a day's watching here, I have counted as many as eighteen deer; does, fawns, spike bucks, and

forked horns. Always, during the day's watch, there are hunters working the cover to the west.

It is just a matter of studying the trails and runways which the game normally uses. In effect, trail watching is about the same as an orthodox drive, but with this difference—every hunter in the brush is doing the driving for the lone rifleman waiting.

A rifleman who takes a deer by watching a trail need make no apology for his shooting. Even though the range is short, he must make his bull on a moving target. The shooting is strictly offhand. It calls for good practical field accuracy. The trail watching itself calls for patience. And accuracy, plus patience, pays off big in just about 90 percent of all hunting situations. ♦ ♦ ♦

Cast Bullets at 4760!

(Continued from page 32)

positive of a hit. On the other shot there were faint blood signs, but the chuck dived into the den, apparently still full of life. As evidence of the bullet's not breaking up we heard the horrible but unmistakable sound of a ricochet. Fortunately, we had selected perfectly safe country for these tests.

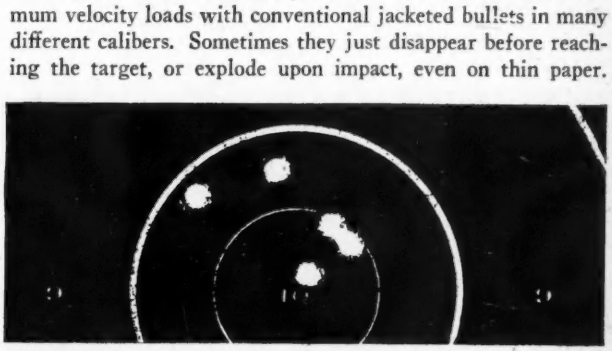
For the fourth shot a cavity in the flat point was drilled to one-fourth inch depth and 5/64 inch diameter. At 120 paces the bullet passed clean through both shoulders. The result was an instant kill, but there was definitely no sign of the bullet's disintegrating or even expanding noticeably. There was no real distinction between the size of the entrance and exit holes. The fifth shot, with the pointed No. 60A and 42.0 grains of powder, made a clean kill on a shoulder shot, but still there was no bullet expansion.

The final check was steel penetration at fifty yards. A factory 48 grain bullet all but went through the one-half inch thick mild cold-rolled steel plate. Including the fractured bulge on the back side, the depth was .61 inch, and the minimum diameter was .365 inch. The 29 grain Kirksite "A" bullet and 42.0 grains of powder showed far less penetration. There is a good reason though. The depth of the crater was .24 inch and the diameter increased to .425 inch. This variation is apparently a matter of bullet energy.

The factory load with 48 grain soft-point lead jacketed bullet at 4140 foot-seconds velocity shows an energy figure of 1825 foot-pounds. The 29 grain Kirksite "A" bullet at 4760 foot-seconds velocity has an energy figure of only 1460 foot-pounds. Increase the velocity to 4900 foot-seconds velocity, which it should be with the heaviest load tried, and the energy factor for this light bullet would be about 1550 foot-pounds, or noticeably less than the factory .220 load with heavier bullet. The penetration is apparently no freak.

Chances are, until Kirksite "A" alloy bullet possibilities are explored further, the most promising results will be for an accurate cast bullet for target shooting at relatively high velocity, insuring a comparatively flat trajectory. Tests have shown, so far, that this alloy is not the best for an expanding hunting bullet.

As far as we know, no bullet of any type has been fired at such speeds in a conventional rifle with reasonable accuracy. In all of these high velocity Kirksite tests every bullet reached the target and was accounted for in groups of maximum 5.32 inch diameter. We cannot say the same for increased or maximum velocity loads with conventional jacketed bullets in many different calibers. Sometimes they just disappear before reaching the target, or explode upon impact, even on thin paper.



This .96-inch five shot group was made at 100 yards with a 40-grain Kirksite bullet in a .220 Swift. Powder charge was 37.0 grains of No. 3031

The highest velocity we have record of in a conventional rifle cartridge is with a 40 grain bullet at an instrumental velocity of 4491 foot-seconds, using 41.0 grains No. 4320 powder in the .22 Varminter, which was chronographed at the Peters Cartridge Company some years ago.

After the above tests were made Robert Hutton did some experimenting with Kirksite "A" bullets made in a Cramer .22 Hi-Power mold, No. 59-S, sized to .225-inch diameter. With these 40-grain bullets he fired the group shown, actual size, whose center-to-center measurement is .96 inch. A charge of 37.0 grains of No. 3031 powder was used in a Super Grade Model 70 of .220 Swift caliber. ♦ ♦ ♦

Battlefield Trophies

IT WAS A BIRTHDAY PARTY for the Pilloni children in Bloomfield, New Jersey. It began with ice cream and merriment—and ended in terror. To the Bloomfield police, it was another grim incident in one of the war's most persistent aftermaths: The two-year-long chain of accidents and near-accidents resulting from mishandling battlefield trophies, still happening in every part of the United States.

The Pilloni case occurred like a score of others. Dr. Louis Pilloni was the proud owner of a bazooka shell, one of several mementoes of his overseas service. He thought it was a dud and could never explode. But during the excitement of the party, while the youngsters were running in and out of the house, his nine-year-old son Bill took the shell outside and tossed it into the air. An instant later, a blast filled the air with flying fragments of shrapnel. Five of the children were hurt so badly they had to be rushed to the hospital, the others were shocked and bleeding.

In Brooklyn, New York, seven children were hospitalized by a one-pound fragmentation shell a soldier friend brought home from the war. The children had been playing with the shell, and had dumped most of its powder content on the sidewalk. An older boy leading the game touched a match to the loose powder. The flames were sucked into the shell casing, which exploded. The children were taken away with lacerations, flesh punctures, and fractured bones.

Those are just two of the thousands of instances in which public ignorance as to the potential dangers of many explosive-type war trophies has led to serious accidents, human misery—even death.

What can be done about it?

The National War Trophy Safety program was devised as a public service to show Americans the potential danger lurking in many types of explosive souvenirs brought back from foreign battlefields. The National War Trophy Safety Committee, and the many state and local committees now being formed, were originated with the co-operation of the NRA in conjunction with the Treasury, War, and Navy Departments of the Government.

President Truman, when informed of the proposed program, made the following statement.

"It has been brought to my attention that the War, Navy, and Treasury Departments and the National Rifle Association have joined in a campaign of instruction to prevent the loss of life and destruction of property resulting from the possession of explosive-type war souvenirs. One need but scan the papers to see that such a safety program is badly needed.

"The problem is primarily one of education. It is regrettable that a step of this kind was not taken after past wars. This neglect has cost us thousands of lives and millions of dollars.

"Three Government agencies and a nonprofit sportsmen's organization have banded together in a public service. I trust the public will hear them—and heed."

Basically, the aims of the War Trophy Safety Program are threefold:

(1) To locate and render permanently harmless all explosive trophies, such as grenades, mines, shells, body traps.

(2) To inform owners of foreign small arms, such as rifles, pistols, and shotguns, as to the capabilities and limitations of their trophy weapons, and to educate them as regards the *safe* combination of gun and ammunition (if any).

(3) To obtain the registration and (with the owner's consent) deactivation of *fully automatic* souvenirs such as machine guns and machine pistols.

At the request of NRA Headquarters, a number of individuals, well known among shooters of their area, have volunteered time and effort, either in a working or advisory capacity, in connection with the program. Primarily, their duties are to serve as advisors in all matters pertaining to small arms and to protect the interests of the NRA in all information presented to the public. We suggest that any information of an explosive-type souvenir, which affects the War Trophy Safety Program, be passed on to the state or local committee chairman listed below. ◆ ◆ ◆

E. M. Murphy
Eldan Apt. 104
Fargo, North Dakota

C. D. Wild
7260 Blondo Street
Omaha, Nebraska

Oscar R. Mains
2432 W. Argyle Place
Denver, Colorado

George Barcus
755 E. 5th Street, So.
Salt Lake City, Utah

E. B. Mann
1020 Parkland Place
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Lawrence E. Brooks, Sr.
1436 Harrison
Topeka, Kansas

Harmon L. Remmel
112 W. 9th
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dr. E. O. Swanson
Donaldson Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota

W. M. Perry
1609 Main St.
Columbia, South Carolina

Harry J. Linn
Dept. of Agriculture
Des Moines, Iowa

Clyde Townsend
1114½ W. Fayette Ave.
Springfield, Illinois

Paul J. Bailey
39 West 27th Street
Indianapolis, Indiana

J. J. Ring
1842 N. 83rd Street
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

L. A. Badeaux
701 W. 3rd Street
Thibodaux, Louisiana

Thurman Randle
208 North Akard Street
Dallas, Texas

L. L. Cline
325 Cedar Street
San Antonio, Texas

W. E. Hurlburt
919 Darchester Street
Jacksonville, Florida

William C. Watters
Box 1124
Louisville, Kentucky

Don Gillies
c/o Detroit Times
Detroit, Michigan

John R. Lang
3498 Meadow Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio

Ray T. Bayless
7301 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

Harvey R. Hawgood
Hawgood and Van Horn
Leader Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Allen T. Kline
10 South 32nd Street
Camden, New Jersey

Bernard Gray
2216 Stuart Avenue
Richmond, Virginia

John M. Dwelle
111 Latta Arcade
Charlotte, North Carolina

R. G. Kelly
1581 Quarries St.
Charleston, West Virginia

Carl L. Jackson
916 Healey Building
57 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia

P. D. Andrews
212 Parsons Drive
Syracuse, New York

M. H. Geisinger
211 Leedon Street
Jenkintown, Pennsylvania

James Affleck
Box 2038
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Carl E. Kastner
1 Owen Drive
Newark, New Jersey

Robie E. Kempton
Kimball Building
18 Tremont St.
Boston, Massachusetts

Fred S. Hall
8 Warren Street
Concord, New Hampshire

Waldo Rouviere
106 Messer St.
Providence, Rhode Island

A. L. Meloche
704 Security Building
Phoenix, Arizona

Dr. James B. Gasho
Box 260
Greenfield Acres
Reno, Nevada

C. M. Styer
220 Hudson Street
Seattle, Washington

Carroll B. Skillin
465 Congress St.
Portland, Maine

Ed Moore
c/o New York Journal
American
New York, New York

Russ Wisler
543 Clay Street
San Francisco, California

L. A. Pope
532 Oakford Drive
Los Angeles, California

THE KNOCK-OUT BLOW

By JOHN TAYLOR

BALLISTIC EXPERTS will tell you that energy is a perfectly accurate mathematical measurement of a rifle's power at any given range. There can be no doubt that it is, theoretically at any rate, a perfectly accurate mathematical measurement, but I utterly fail to see what use it is to the practical sportsman; for the excellent reason that it does not give a basis from which a comparison of any two rifles can be made with any real degree of accuracy. Gunsmiths, of course, invariably quote it in their catalogues because, particularly nowadays since the introduction of the high-velocity magnum rifle, it is decidedly flattering to their weapons.

To explain what I mean by saying that energy does not permit of a fair comparison, let us take the excellent example of the .404. Now the standard cartridge for this rifle fires a 400 grain bullet with a velocity of 2,125 feet-per-second which shows a muzzle energy of 4,020 foot-pounds. But the high-velocity cartridge throws a 300 grain bullet with a velocity of 2,600 feet-per-second which shows a theoretical mathematical muzzle energy of 4,500 foot-pounds. From this any uninitiated sportsman might well be excused for believing that the 300 grain bullet strikes a heavier blow than does the 400 grain bullet. But this is not the case. Granting that a high striking velocity is an advantage on soft-skinned game at medium and long ranges, bullet weight is essential when it comes to close-quarter work against dangerous game. Within reasonable limits it can be stated that the heavier the bullet the heavier the blow delivered. Theoretical energy lays too much stress on velocity at the expense of bullet weight.

The difference between these two cartridges is not very great, but take an exaggerated example. The 143 grain bullet from a .280 Halger at 300 yards shows a theoretical energy greater than that of the 750 grain bullet from the .577 at the same range. But if the 750 grain bullet from the .577 hit an elephant in the head at that range, but missed the brain it would knock him down whereas if the 143 grain bullet from the .280 Halger missed the brain by the same amount it would have no effect on the elephant whatsoever. Admittedly this is a somewhat farfetched example. But it frequently happens that an exaggeration of this description, by emphasizing a point, enables a man to grasp it more readily, through seeing it more easily, than if the examples were not so widely separated.

Theoretical mathematical muzzle energy is the most misleading thing in the world and should on no account be used when comparing two rifles other than those of approximately the same bore, firing bullets of approximately the same weight; then perhaps, it is of some use.

In the table of ballistics (on the next page) I have given a column of figures which I have headed "Knockout Value." Now I am fully aware that the great majority of ballistic experts would look very much askance at these figures, but I do not care because I do not pretend that they denote killing power. Innumerable formulas have, from time to time, been put forward to indicate a rifle's killing power, but none of them is of much value, for the real truth is that life cannot be expressed in mathematical terms of X, Y, and Z. Nobody realizes that fact better than I do. I, however, do consider that some means is desirable of enabling inexperienced sportsmen to compare any two rifles, even of widely differing bores, from the point of view of the actual blow delivered by the bullet on heavy, massive-boned animals such as elephant. This comparison is to enable them to see at a glance whether or not a rifle is likely to be a safe, suitable, and satisfactory weapon for use at close quarters in thick cover. And, since theoretical energy lays too much stress and importance on velocity and, therefore, cannot be relied upon for the purpose of comparison, I have worked out these values which, in my experience, approximate in an altogether remarkable way the actual performance of the different rifles and different bullets under practical sporting conditions. They *do* give an excellent basis for comparison from the point of view of the actual blow delivered, and allow the large bore with its heavy bullet and reasonable velocity to come into its own and not be overshadowed by high velocity.

No better example of this can be found than in the case of the .465 and .416 bore rifles. If you take a frontal head shot at an elephant with a .416 and miss the brain, you will not stun him other than momentarily—in all probability his hindquarters will give way, and he will squat like a huge pig for a few moments, then, if you don't finish him off at once, will heave to his feet, swing around, and clear off. But if you had taken the same shot with a .465, the elephant would have been knocked out entirely. The mathematical muzzle energy of the .416 is somewhat greater than that of the .465, but the bullet is considerably lighter. My knockout values show the .465 to hit a heavier blow than the .416. I am fully aware that the .416 hits a sufficiently heavy blow for all practical purposes, but that is an entirely different story. The point that I wish to make is that my figures show the true difference between these two rifles from the point of view of the actual blow deliv-

ered—as proved by actual experience in the bush—whereas theoretical energy would seem to show that the .416 is the more powerful weapon.

It must be clearly understood, however, that they really apply only to blunt-nose, solid bullets used against heavy, massive-boned animals. Theoretical energy probably gives a surer indication when expanding bullets on soft-skinned animals are concerned. I have only worked out the values for small-bore high-velocity rifles because of certain men who used to use small-bore rifles for elephant, though they are rarely used nowadays. But the books that these men wrote are still extant and young beginners might very easily be persuaded after reading them that small-bore rifles are all that are necessary. However, when it is realized that a minimum of fifty in the knockout value column of my values is necessary before a rifle can be considered safe for elephant—with forty permissible for a thoroughly experienced man—it will be immediately seen that those dainty little squibs and squirts are by no means all that are necessary. The tables are by no means complete, but they show all the rifles in general use in Africa up to the outbreak of World War II.

A study of the tables will more than repay the small effort required. I have worked out the K.O. value of the 300 grain bullet for the .404 to show how, had it been a blunt-nose bullet, it would not have inflicted so heavy a blow as does the standard 400 grain bullet.

Any modern rifle is capable of killing the largest buffalo or elephant in all Africa, provided it is loaded with suitable bullets and provided that elephant or buffalo is sufficiently obliging to expose a vital spot, but that is just the point. In the days when those small bores were used, the elephant had not become accustomed to gun fire and spent the greater part of the time out in the open. Under such conditions a .275 would be just as effective as a .577 if you were a reasonably good shot and not inclined to get excited. But conditions are very different today. Nowadays, you find your elephant in dense, matted tangles of bush and estimate your range in feet, not in yards. You can seldom pick your shot, but must take what the Gods offer and be thankful to get a shot at all. Frequently the only way to bag your elephant is to knock him out and then tear your way through a tangle of bush and thorn to finish him off before he can get to his feet again.

Rifle	*Bullet (grains)*	*Muzzle Velocity (foot-seconds)*	*Muzzle Energy (foot-pounds)*	*Knockout Value*
.256 (6.5 mm.)	156	2400	1990	13.5
.275 (7 mm.)	173	2300	2040	15.6
.303 Mark VI	215	2060	2030	19.2
.318	250	2400	3200	27.25
.333	300	2200	3240	31.4
.400-350	310	2150	3190	33.3
.350 Magnum	225	2600	3380	29.25
.355 (9 mm.)	245	2150	2520	26.7
.360 No. 2	320	2200	3450	36.2
.366 (9.3 mm.)	285	2175	3000	32.8
.369 Purdey	270	2620	4120	37.3
.375 B.S.A.	270	2000	2400	28.9
.375 Mann-Schon	270	2250	3030	32.5
.375 Magnum	270	2650	4220	38.3
.375 Magnum	300	2500	4160	40.1
.450-400	400	2125	4010	48.6
.404	400	2125	4020	49.0
.404	300	2600	4500	45.0
.405 Winchester	300	2200	3240	38.2
.416	410	2350	5010	57.25
.423 (10.75 mm.)	347	2200	3750	46.1
.425	410	2350	5010	58.5
.465	480	2125	4880	67.1
.470	500	2125	5030	71.3
.475	480	2175	5030	70.8
.475 No. 2	480	2200	5170	71.7
.476	520	2100	5100	74.2
.500 3 inch	570	2125	5730	87.3
.505 Gibbs	525	2300	6180	86.25
.577 3 inch	750	2050	7020	126.7
.600	900	1950	7610	150.4

It is absolutely imperative that your rifle should carry a sufficiently powerful punch.

K.O. values of fifty will bring down an elephant, but over sixty are necessary to stun him other than momentarily. Rifles in the .465 bore group will knock an elephant out for somewhere between five and ten minutes—be on the safe side and call it five. A .577 will keep him down for anything up to twenty minutes, and a .600 anything up to half an hour. I am, of course, assuming a head shot that fails to find the brain, but hits pretty close to it. ◆ ◆ ◆

Mounts for Hunting Scopes

(Continued from page 27)

Model 70 Winchester and Model 99 Savage. In this line, Install-It-Yourself types are made by Stith, Mashburn, Williams, Bengert, King-Pike, Weaver, and probably a number of other makers. Many others, like the Buehler, one model of the Williams, Mashburn, and Redfield require drilling and tapping at least one additional hole in the receiver bridge.

Sometimes this drilling can be a rather complicated process, especially if the receiver is quite hard. They do vary in hardness, incidentally, ever. with modern rifles like the model 70 Winchester. For an exceedingly hard receiver a practical suggestion has been made by a prominent scope and mount distributor. When possible, special Hard Steel Black drills are used. Then the threading tap is heated cherry red and dipped in a cold brine solution. This makes the tap very hard. It will break quite easily. If that does happen, a sharp blow with a center punch will shatter the broken tap and the pieces can then be removed from the partially tapped hole. Hard on taps, yes, but one way of doing the job.

The shooter must remember that when he is using a mount with a rather short base, any error in mounting will show up when trying to sight the rifle. The short-based side mounts are particularly vulnerable in this respect. The slightest error in either sight alignment or base fit on the rifle will show up in the final job and you may then have a mounted scope which cannot be zeroed. ◆ ◆ ◆

Take Care of That Barrel

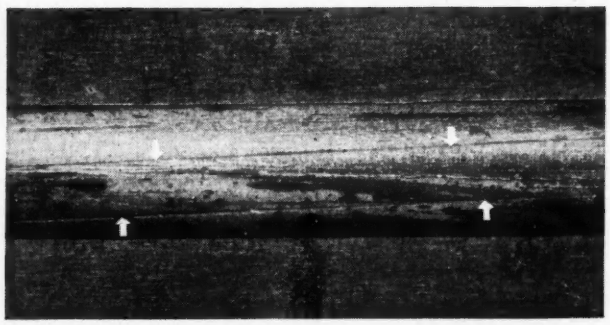
By MAJOR J. R. CONNELLY

THE PHOTOGRAPH below shows the interior of a .22 caliber rifle barrel that has been sectioned lengthwise to give a clear view of the bore. The barrel was selected at random from barrels scrapped by the government. It is neither the worst nor the best of a lot that had been scrapped because the lands had worn away from constant firing. The barrels were no longer accurate enough to warrant use in training.

Notice that the bore of this rifle barrel is marked with many streaks and ridges. Not all of these are manufacturers tool marks from finishing the inside of the barrel. The major portion of the marks appear to be in line with the axis of the bore. One or two deep gouges at the leading edge of one of the lands are visible. Also, the bottom of the groove has many parallel scratches not ordinarily made by a rifling cutter.

Tool marks in the bore of a barrel are of two distinctive types, resulting from the finishing tools used. The last tool used on the lands is the finishing bore reamer, and tool marks from it would be nearly at right angles to the bore. The last tool used in the grooves is the rifling cutter; tool marks from it would be along the grooves.

The life of this barrel might have been longer had the proper care been given to it. The streaks and ridges which are visible are the direct result of one of two practices: careless and forceful use of the cleaning rod, and shooting dirty bullets. Actually the marks parallel to the axis of the bore appear to have been made by the cleaning rod, carelessly and forcefully used. The gouges and scratches along the groove could have been caused by the cleaning rod or shooting dirty bullets.

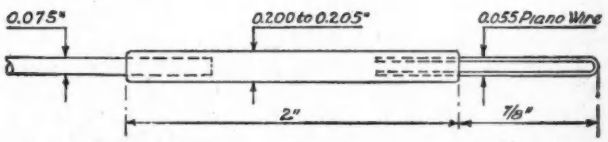


Improper cleaning or dirty bullets may have caused the bore marks and nicks in the lands which are visible in the barrel of this .22 rifle

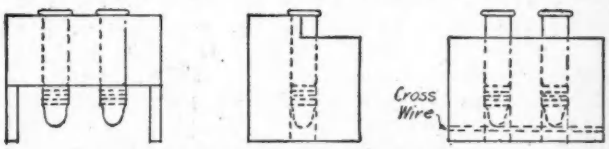
No matter what bullets, lead or jacketed, are fired in a gun, a little extra care to that gun will add hundreds or possibly thousands of rounds to the life of an accurate barrel.

To reduce the hazard to fine barrels caused by improper use of the cleaning rod, the author has devised two variations of the standard draw rod. In both variations the business end of the rod is the same, but one has a thin solid shank and the other has a braided wire cable for a shank (with obvious advantages in portability. The dimensions of a draw rod are worked out for the .22 caliber bore but can easily be adopted for any size bore. In operation, the patch is threaded through the loop and pulled through the barrel. All metal surfaces that touch the rifling are smooth and the radial pressure from the patch is caused only by the folds of the patch, which is not backed by a piece of unyielding steel that forces impurities to scratch the bore. The usual .30 caliber patches will fit nicely when threaded half-way through and the same patch when threaded only part way through serves very well in the .22.

Naturally this method does not work for pitted barrels. It has been used for some time with complete satisfaction on barrels that are initially in good condition.



Major Connelly's design of a cleaning rod tip for use in .22 barrels



Dirt and grit will not collect in bullet blocks if holes are cut through

Now as to dirty bullets. Probably the problem would be clearer if it were realized that, for our purposes, one could say that with lead core bullets the radial pressure is the same as the pressure on the back, less the force consumed in plastic working. Any grit that is on the bearing surface then is pretty firmly pushed into the rifled surface. Lubrication is not ideal.

The lubricant on lead bullets is a compromise, its principal virtue being that it stays on. The lubricant on a bullet also picks up any small loose particles that contact it. How many times have you seen some fellow open a nice fresh box of .22 ammunition and calmly stuff the rounds into an old block of wood drilled full of holes and possibly shellacked. Were the holes clean to begin with? If you must use a shooting block, drill the holes all the way through so they will stay clean and have a hard smooth surface that will not retain dirt.

The sum of all this is: grit is fine on sandpaper but not in firearm barrels. Do not scrub your barrel any harder than you would your teeth. ◆ ◆ ◆

As Major Connelly's article points out, cleaning as well as shooting can wear out a rifle bore.

Parodoxically, the cleaning rod with a soft surface designed to avoid scratching the bore is the worse offender, as it easily picks up particles of sand and grit which can become embedded in the surface and thus be in a position to scratch the rifling.

The best cleaning rod is one made of good hard steel, as near bore diameter as practicable, and with a smooth surface. It is impossible for the rounded steel surface to scratch, and particles of sand cannot become embedded in it.

In using a cleaning rod, even of the preferred type, it should be wiped off so as to remove any grit that might adhere to it because of the oily surface.—EDITOR.

"MR. CHAIRMAN!"

By TOM ARNOLD *

SOME TIME DURING the next couple of months many NRA-affiliated rifle and pistol clubs will hold their annual members' meetings. Right now is a good time for club officers and members to look ahead and see what can be done to improve and enlarge the club. That annual meeting, if it is well handled, can be a lot more important to a club than the members sometimes realize. If plans are formulated at an orderly open meeting, with all of the members present, a program can be laid out for many months ahead and the interests of the members can be held by a carefully planned club improvement and activities schedule.

Unfortunately a lot of club meetings are just about the opposite and a meeting of the ordinary sort is something most shooters can take or let alone. No one minds a good bull session. I can talk about my own pet gun or pet load or how I won the local championship for as long as the next man, but a club meeting is not the place to do it.

That "annual members' meeting" is not the only get-together a club should consider. Some clubs meet only once or twice annually while others hold business sessions every month or two. Probably a good average would be a couple of business meetings—one in the spring to plan for the outdoor season and a fall meeting prior to the opening of the gallery season—and the annual members' meeting for general business transactions.

Don't forget to notify all of the club members well in advance of the club meeting. Tell them what the meeting is for and exactly what will be discussed so they can get their ideas and their suggestions in order.

Another important point is to call the meeting to order at the time stated in the announcement. If the meeting starts on the dot, a few members may miss the start of it but they'll be there promptly the next time.

If the minutes of the previous meeting were not sent to all members, have them read as a means of getting the meeting started and bringing everyone up to date. Then have the necessary officers and committee reports read. Encourage discussions and questions but keep the meeting on the subject. Another thing for the Chairman to watch for is that the meeting is orderly. Insist that a member be recognized and give him the floor before talking. Don't allow two or three members to carry on a "private" discussion in a corner.

After the committee reports, unfinished business can be discussed. Few shooting clubs carry problems over from one meeting to another, so this can be cleaned up in a hurry.

The "new business" part of a club meeting is where the presiding officer's planning will show its value. Without a list of matters to be discussed, this portion of a meeting can easily degenerate into a session of endless griping during which no one accomplishes anything.

Here are some suggestions on matters that might well be discussed during any annual club meeting.

—Have the club's newest members been looked after since joining? Don't take the chance of losing them through inattention or lack of co-operation on the part of the old timers.

—Have you provided an instruction program for your new members? Has a spring and fall instructional period been planned as a means of getting additional members?

—What about league shooting? Have you tried to increase club interests by matches with clubs in your area and by entries in the NRA summer and gallery league programs?

—Has your club ever conducted a registered tournament? This might be just what the club needs to give a real wind-up to the summer competitive season.

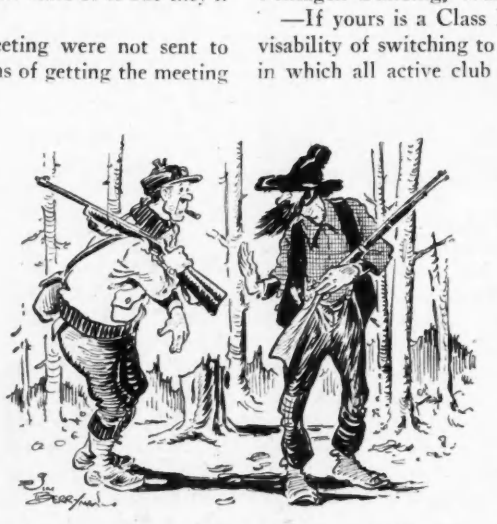
—Every progressive club should sponsor a junior program. Does yours?

—Does your club have liability insurance? Inexpensive liability coverage is available from a nationally known company in arrangement with the NRA.

—Have all of the members fired the Army qualification course for the year? Remember the 1948 ammunition issue is made on this basis. If you need information or forms for this firing, write the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Pentagon Building, Washington 25, D. C.

—If yours is a Class B club, have you talked over the advisability of switching to the Class A plan? This type of club in which all active club members are NRA individual members is by far the most popular type of affiliation.

As soon as the regular items of business have been taken care of, including the election of club officers, it is time to throw the meeting open so that members can air their personal views. To see that equal privileges are afforded all members, a time limit can be placed on discussions of any one subject. If that allotted time is not enough to satisfactorily settle the matter, appoint a committee to make recommendations and report back at the next full meeting where final action can be voted on by all club members. ◆ ◆ ◆



No suh! Ah ain't wearin' nothin' red . . . these hyah woods is fulla McCoys!

* Tom Arnold has been active in the shooting game for many years, both as a competitor and NRA Official Referee. The guiding light of the National Capital Rifle and Pistol Club, he has repeatedly held office in it as President and Secretary. For the last two years he has been Assistant Chief Range Officer at the National Matches.

The Old Coach

LEAGUE SHOOTING

ONE OF THE PROBLEMS which has always concerned me and which I have found to concern others who are seriously interested in rifle and pistol shooting is the problem of developing a type of competition which will attract a large number of shooters and potential shooters. When a new rifle or pistol club is formed, the members are enthusiastic and spend night after night and week after week at the range "just practicing." Soon a few improve in ability and wish to compete in matches within their own club or with members of outside clubs. At first these "matches" are very informal and everyone has a good time but, as the new club progresses, they become more and more formal. They always center around the few good shooters who win the majority of individual matches and make up the team which represents the club. Some club members, not particularly interested in serious competition, or lacking the native ability which will ever put them on top, lose interest. Quite frequently these shooters are in the majority; in many instances they are leading business men in the community who can help the struggling new organization to obtain the type of shooting facilities every club aspires to—a good outdoor range, a nice clubhouse, and a good gallery range.

It has been my experience that one of the best methods of combatting waning interest in a rifle or pistol club is to arrange for the organization of leagues during the early life of the shooting club. Whether the club is a small one with just a few members or whether it has fifty or more shooters, the membership should be divided into groups which furnish teams for the "club league." Include the entire club membership, both the good and the poor shots, in these groups. As nearly as possible, each should have almost equal scoring ability. The team furnished by each group should number less than the total membership in the group so there will be no necessity for every member to be present at every match. If each member must come out for every event, shooting will soon become a chore or job and he will sour on the sport.

League shooting within a single club or with neighboring clubs is informal. Every effort should be made to keep it that way. I do not mean that every effort should not be made to improve the scores of the league shooters, week by week, for that definitely should be a major purpose. The best shooters in each group should act as instructors and coaches so that scores of the team will improve and enthusiasm will be kept at a high pitch.

But fun and good fellowship should be a primary goal in this type of league. Everyone should get to know everyone else and enjoy talking over their scores. A few progressive clubs I know make these "bull sessions" even more successful by serving coffee and doughnuts or sandwiches after each league match. Sometimes the cost of these refreshments is taken out of the club funds and sometimes the boys are assessed ten cents apiece to pay for them. A few clubs get the wives to furnish the refreshments, which is far better than having to purchase them at the nearest restaurant.

In making up the groups from which teams will be entered in your league, consider each shooter's outside interests in addition to his scoring ability. Some will be former service men who belong to VFW or American Legion Posts. Some will be members of luncheon or civic clubs. Some will belong to the same church. Perhaps others will come from the same neighborhood. These things should be considered when forming the groups so that each member will have an interest in the team standing which has nothing to do with his scoring ability. Once competition is underway, you will be surprised perhaps to find how many new members these groups bring into the club from their outside organizations.

Small clubs will find that a league gives them a wonderful opportunity to go before veterans' organizations, luncheon clubs, and similar bodies seeking teams for a municipal league. Stores, business firms, and churches, will also furnish teams for such a league if the shooting is kept interesting and enjoyable. Practically every individual in your community fancies himself an expert shot and, if you can give him the type of shooting which will maintain his interest, he will be an enthusiastic member and a booster of a league.

While you are encouraging the club member of average scoring ability to take an interest in league shooting, the experts in your club should not be forgotten. They can be taken care of by organizing a league of teams of the best shots from clubs of surrounding towns. To select a team for the big league, you can use the scores fired in your club league, which will probably be shot on a weekly basis. This will give the club league members something to shoot for in addition to the prizes awarded in their own league.

Another form of expert competition which is growing in popularity in the part of the country with which I am familiar is the annual competition between towns and cities. A great many now support two or more successful rifle and pistol clubs. Where this is the case, it is only natural that rivalry should exist between communities. Each club wishes to prove that it can furnish the champion individual and champion team. This leads to intercity competition which other sports have been enjoying for many years but which seems to be just taking hold in the shooting sport. All the clubs in a community band together and select a team of the best shooters resident in that community. That team then competes in one or a series of matches against teams of other communities to decide the championship. A lot of fun can be had from this competition and newspapers really "go for it."

Once a league is organized, the firing schedule arranged, and the course of fire determined, register it with the NRA. Last year over 400 teams fired in 91 leagues in the NRA Gallery League Championship. The NRA awarded prizes to the winning team in each league which fired in the State and National Championship matches. Complete details regarding the organization, operation, and registration of leagues can be obtained by writing the Competitions Section of the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C. ◆ ◆ ◆

POWDER SMOKE: THE NEWS DESK . . . READERS COMMENT

NATIONAL GUARD COOPERATION

The problem of finding a range site has always been one of the principal stumbling blocks to the organization and maintenance of active civilian rifle clubs, both Senior and Junior. The rapid expansion of cities, overflowing into what had been suburban and rural areas during the war, has closed many long-established outdoor ranges. The high pressure resulting from the demand for manufacturing and warehouse space has aggravated the problem of finding areas in which to locate indoor ranges.

In many communities some relief may soon be found as a result of action taken by the National Guard Association of the United States at its meeting in Columbus, Ohio, of September 20th. At that meeting the officers of the Guard adopted the following resolution:

"Whereas training the youth of our Nation in the safe and efficient use of small arms is one of the most practical methods of developing those qualities of self-discipline, group discipline, self-confidence, and initiative which are essential alike to the good citizen and the good soldier, and

"Whereas small arms competitions between units of the National Guard and civilian marksmen afford one of the better opportunities for Guardsmen and the civilians of their respective communities to meet under conditions of mutual interest, thereby establishing friendly, cooperative relationships beneficial to all concerned, therefore

"Be it resolved that the National Guard Association of the United States does hereby urge all unit commanders to co-operate wholeheartedly with the National Rifle Association of America and the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, War Department, in the organization of both Junior and Senior Civilian Rifle Clubs, by providing instruction and coaching for such civilian groups, by making available the indoor and outdoor range facilities of the Guard, and by sponsoring joint Guard-civilian small arms competitions."

Co-operation between local units of the National Guard and civilian rifle clubs has been "spotty" in the past. In communities where civilian shooting clubs and Guard units have worked together in training and shooting programs the results have been highly satisfactory. In other localities the plan has been unsatisfactory to both groups. Much depends on the personalities involved.

It is to be hoped that the action taken by the National Guard Association will encourage local Guard officers to make a real effort to co-operate with Senior and Junior rifle clubs and that the officers of these civilian shooting groups will, in similar fashion, work with Guardsmen in the maintenance and use of local indoor and outdoor range facilities. During the present period of range shortages close co-operation between Guardsmen and civilian shooters can be of immense benefit to both.

Local clubs now seeking range facilities should immediately talk over the matter with local Guard commanders.

PERRY TEAM MATCH GOES TO FRAZIER-SIMPLEX

In a recently discovered unfortunate "comedy of errors" it was necessary to disqualify the first place team in the NRA Affiliated Club Team Match No. 18 held at Camp Perry. The winner of the match is the Frazier-Simplex team with a record breaking score of 1590-97x. The team members, Wayne, Charlie, Bob, and Bertie Moore.

Preliminary announcements of National Match results carried the Bear Rock Rifle Club Team of Pennsylvania in first place in this match and thereby hangs as strange a story as has been heard recently, even at Camp Perry. A story of four Pennsylvania shooters, as good sportsmen as the game owns, who through a maze of perverse circumstances, entered the metallic sight Affiliated Club Team Match representing a club to which they didn't belong, while belonging to and intending to represent another club which had to be ruled ineligible after the match was over. Though old and respected on the rolls of the NRA, the club was disqualified in the match since (unknown to the team) the officers had failed to file their application to reaffiliate with the NRA following the war.

So, it's "no contest" for the boys of the Hazelton Rifle Club, good sports who came all the way down to NRA Headquarters to tell us the story. The score was good too—a 1593-91x which would beat the world's record by three points—but they wanted it fair or not at all. Incidentally, the Hazelton Club is now affiliated.

NEW MANUAL ON INDOOR RANGE CONSTRUCTION AVAILABLE

The Celotex Corporation, Chicago, Illinois, announces that it has published, in collaboration with J. L. Murphy, Jr., of the NRA Range Planning Section, a new and up-to-date manual on the construction of indoor rifle and pistol ranges. The purpose of this manual is not to actually specify materials so much as to set up the principal working elements by which an indoor range can be constructed, and to serve as a guide to architects, engineers, officials of clubs, schools, and police forces.

The manual outlines very completely the space requirements for indoor ranges and the pertinent features which make for safeness. Suggested designs for bullet stops and simple target-carrying devices are also shown.

The section on lighting describes the latest and most satisfactory developments in indoor range lighting. Recommended intensities and methods of achieving proper lighting are described in the text and illustrated in the drawings.

The subjects of firing points and accessory equipment are covered very completely. The last section of the book is devoted to the subject of heating, ventilation, and sound proofing, improvements which make the indoor range a more efficient and enjoyable place in which to practice and compete.

Any club planning a new indoor range or rebuilding and improving an existing range will find this manual an invaluable aid. Copies can be obtained free, by writing either the National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C., or the Celotex Corporation, 919 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

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TOURNAMENT REVIEWS

About this time every year, after the peak of the summer rifle and pistol competitive season and the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, are over, the number of tournaments held each weekend falls off rapidly. Colder weather moves across the northern states; only a few Class C matches, and some state championship events that were not held before Perry, are listed as Coming Events.

The gallery season is not yet in full swing and will not be until the first of the year. Individual shooters are turning their attention to hunting licenses, and are cleaning and sighting-in their guns for the deer season. Club officers and members are planning for the winter shooting season. Indoor ranges must be cleaned, repaired, and painted, or a basement or warehouse in which one can be built must be sought.

In planning winter programs, clubs should not overlook participation in the NRA Gallery League Championship Matches, the most important competitive event of the season. Gallery league entries close December 15. Organized among NRA clubs or individual members, these leagues are autonomous units, determining their own courses of fire and schedules, though competing under NRA rules. Entry fees this year will be $5 per team but no league will pay less than $15 or more than $25. Late next spring the winner from each league will fire against winners in other leagues in the same state, in a shoulder-to-shoulder match if possible, to determine state and national gallery league champions. Scores fired in league matches will be one basis for awarding NRA classifications.

☆ ☆ ☆

At the tail end of the summer, just before packing to go home from the summer camps, junior shooters at more than 230 camps which give marksmanship training fired the NRA Summer Camp Team Match. The Senior Boys' Team from Camp Mondamin, at Tuxedo, N. C., was the winner of this shoot, repeating its victory in last year's event. Scoring 500, the only possible in the match, the Mondamin team won over Camp Androscoggin of Wayne, Maine, which tallied a 498, and the 497 of Camp Lincoln, Lake Hubert, Minn.

Mondamin teams also finished first and second in the Junior Boys' Division with 494 and 492. Third in this division was Camp White Earth, Waubun, Minn., with 488.

Girls at Camp Appalachia, Covington, Va., scored three victories in Senior and Junior Girls' Divisions. Appalachia's Senior teams finished first and third in that division, scoring 498 and 487. Sandwiched in second place was Camp Lake Hubert, Lake Hubert, Minn., with 493. Appalachia also had the winning team of Junior Girls, which scored 484 to win over Camp Allegany's 480 and Camp Fleur de Lis' 478.

High score in the Senior boys' and girls' individual match (prone and standing) was a 188 fired by girl camper Duane Thompson of Camp Appalachia. Duane's sister Janis finished ninth in the Senior ranks while another sister, Miriam, was high with 195 in the all prone Junior Girls' Division.

Louis Basso of Camp Lincoln scored 185 to finish first in the Senior Boys' Division but the second place Senior girl, Betty Jane Paterson, had a higher score, 186. Second place Senior boy was Bud Williamson of Camp White Earth with 181. High in the Junior Boys' Division with 198 over the prone course was Hallery Perty of Camp Minnehaha, while William Kamm of Devereaux Camp was second with 196. Mary Martha Lea of Camp Appalachia was second in the Junior Girls' Division, scoring 191.

☆ ☆ ☆

Thirty caliber, pistol, and small-bore shooters have been active in the past few months with the windup of the outdoor season. Reports of several prominent ones are given below:

Dave Carlson won three individual matches and dropped only five points in winning the New York State Rifle Championship, August 23 and 24 at the Gunner's Club of Long Island range. In the 50-yard metallic sight match, Carlson scored 400-33X and won the 100-yard metallic event with 398-24X and the metallic 50-meter match with 399-31X.

In the four-man team match, fired at 100 yards with any sights, the Gunner's Club team of John Borokhovish, Audrey Bockmann, Ed Kill, and Eleanor Dunn aggregated 1587-93X to establish a new four-man team mark for the course.

☆ ☆ ☆

A four-man team representing the Cumberland Rifle Club defeated the Greenbelt Rifle Club by one point to win the Maryland State Team Championship, September 28. The Cumberland team of Kenneth Hauser, Leo Leasure, Ralph Cramer, and Paul Nycum scored 390-12X, 391-16X, 390-12X, and 390-19X for a total of 1561-59X. The Greenbelt team of L. L. Woodman, Don Kern and Mildred Kern, and Carrol Gardner scored 1560-65X. The match was fired over the Dewar course.

☆ ☆ ☆

Robert E. Perkins, of Fresno, extended his winning streak by capturing the Grand Aggregate in the monthly Small Bore Rifle Match held at Richmond, Calif., October 5. Besides the Grand Aggregate, he also won the Iron Sight Aggregate with 592-23X's, as well as the Any Sight Aggregate with 598-44X's. In addition he took first place in the 100-yard Iron Sight Match with 197-8X's, and the 50-meter Any Sight Match with 200-16X's.

John W. Ward of San Carlos, an up-and-coming Junior took second place in the field with 1181. Ward also took first place in two individual matches. He shot a 200 possible with 15X's to lead the field in the 50-yard Any Sight Match. In the 50-meter Iron Sight Match he shot 199 with 12X's.

In the special four-position match fired at 50 yards, any sights, Ben Gould, of San Jose, creedmored P. Kuri, of San Francisco, to take first place with 185.

☆ ☆ ☆

Mert Golden of Reading, Penn., was high man in the Tenth Annual Mountain State Pistol Match, sponsored Sept. 1 and 2 by the Parkersburg, W. Va., Police Department. Golden scored 1721 in the aggregate to win over many outstanding pistol shooters from the East. Quantico Marine Sergeant Walter Devine finished second with 1712, and John B. Layton, Washington Policeman, was third with 1707.

☆ ☆ ☆

The thirty-eighth annual .30 caliber matches of the Michigan Rifle and Pistol Association was held at Camp Grayling, Michigan, on July 26 and 27. Sixty-eight competitors registered for the tournament and some very credible scores were fired in spite of the handicaps of providing scoring and pit details. John Kirkpatrick of Muskegon, Mich., was the outstanding winner with first place in five matches including four trophies. A drenching rain all the second morning discouraged some who left, and a condensed version of the team and 1000 yard matches were all that could be fired.

Match 1 (20 shots 200 yards offhand) Robert Waggoner, Pontiac, 93x100. Match 2 (10 shots rapid fire at 200 and 10 at 300) John Kirkpatrick, Muskegon, 96x100. Match 3 (10 shots at each range of 200, 300, and 600 yards) John Kirkpatrick, 136x150. Match 4 (10 shots at 600 yards, service sights) Harry Hartman, Wayne, 48x50. Match 5 (15 shots at 1000 yards, service sights) Charles Vincent, Avoca, 70x75. Match 6 (20 shots at 1000 yards, any gun or sights) Howard Kerr, Muskegon, 98x100. Match 7 (7 shots at each range of 200, 300, 600 yards) Muskegon P&R Club, 372x420. Match 8 (20 shots at 200, 10 each at 300 and 600 yards) Muskegon P&R Club, 694x800. Match 9 (aggregate of Matches 1, 2, 3, and 4) John Kirkpatrick, 356x400. Match 10 (High civilian in Match 3) John Kirkpatrick, 136x150.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Altoona Rifle and Pistol Club held another successful small bore rifle tournament over the Labor Day week-end, with 79 competitors vying for possibles on their beautiful but tricky mountain rifle range. Charley Whipple, Greensburg, Pa., won the aggregate with a total score of 3176, followed closely by Robert Moore, of Claysville, Pa., with a score of 3174. Franklin Thompson, A. W. Philbrick, Adelaide McCord, Charles Moore, Laurence Moore, Gustafson, Rochman, and Sterbutzel finished in the high bracket. Match Winners were: 1) Larue Pollum; 2) W. B. Fowler; 3) A. W. Phil-

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brick; 4) Robert Moore; 5-6) Charles Whipple, also Sunday aggregate; 7) George Rupp; 8) Clair Beck, also Monday aggregate. This tournament—called the First Annual Atlantic States Small Bore Rifle Tournament—was well supported and will be a future "must" for riflemen of the surrounding district.

☆ ☆ ☆

Ervin Brehm, Dearborn, Mich., prove once again that he is a ranking small-bore shooter in the Midwest. At the Fourth Annual Lead Squirter's Picnic, held August 31 at Michigan City, Ind., Brehm won only one of four matches but his consistently good scores gave him another second, second in the iron sight aggregate, and third in the any sight aggregate, in addition to the ranking spot in the grand aggregate. His grand aggregate total was 1591.

Others who finished high up in the aggregate were E. D. Bench, Winnetka, Ill., second with 1589; Robert Wempe of River Forest, Ill., third with 1587-109X; and Waldo Seagly, Topeka, Ind., who was fourth with 1587-90X.

☆ ☆ ☆

Shooters from Yakima, Wash., almost stole the show from Oregon riflemen in the Oregon State .30 caliber Championships at Portland, August 16 and 17. Harland E. Eden, Yakima gunshop owner, won the grand aggregate with 647x700. The team of Eden, Norman Glossbrenner, Lloyd Smoot, and Bob Colby, all from Yakima, won the four-man team match, and another Washington team from Takoma was runner-up. The Washington State Rifle Association won the six-man team match with 1354x1500. Bremerton (Wash.) Marine team finished second with 1338 while the Oregon Association team was a poor third with 1306.

SHOOTING CLUBS IN VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has announced that a series of indoor rifle and pistol matches will be conducted this fall and winter among local posts, climaxing with a shoot next spring to determine the senior and junior winners of the National VFW Gallery Championships. It was also announced that the VFW intends to conduct a similar series of outdoor matches in the summer of 1948 for the National VFW Outdoor Championships.

The national officers of both the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion have expressed interest in rifle and pistol shooting as a part of each local post's activity and say they hope that the majority of posts will organize a senior rifle and pistol club and a junior rifle club as part of local athletic, recreation, and youth training programs. All NRA members who are also VFW or Legion members should encourage their local posts to organize such clubs.

JUNIOR POSTAL MATCHES BEGIN

The competitive season for Junior rifle teams gets off to a start in November with the firing of the first of four monthly matches in the popular Junior Team Postal Championships. These matches have been fired annually since the beginning of the NRA Junior program in 1926. From a total of eight teams in the first match that year the entry list has grown until, in the 1946-1947 season, 592 teams of ten riflemen each participated.

Once again this year teams will fire in special divisions—an "Open" Division from both prone and standing positions; a Scholastic Division, divided further into Military and Nonmilitary School sections; a Nonscholastic Division; a "Cub" Division for team members under 15 years of age; and a Girls' Division. Firing in these divisions will be from the prone position only.

Nearly 10,000 young sharpshooters will fire in the 1947 series of these matches, of which the first must be completed by November 30. Details and entry forms have already been mailed to all NRA Junior rifle clubs and will be sent to any other interested group or individual on request.

CHATTANOOGA CLUB OFFER

J. H. Barnett, Jr., President of the Chattanooga Rifle Club, Inc., deserves a word of thanks from every gun enthusiast in Tennessee. The letter Mr. Barnett wrote to the *Chattanooga Times*, in response to a news item in the September 7 issue of that newspaper, placed the facts concerning "deaths on the target range" before the public.

But Mr. Barnett did more than state the facts about accidental deaths on the target range. He also invited citizens interested in shooting to use the range of the Chattanooga Rifle Club and receive instructions in the safe handling of firearms.

The letter, which follows, is self-explanatory.

"On the day your paper carried the story, members of the Chattanooga Rifle Club fired approximately 1,200 rifle shots, but no one was hurt. This Club has never had anyone hurt during its 20 years of existence—20 years of rifle and pistol shooting.

"There is no record of fatality from firearms on a range operated under National Rifle Association regulations. The Chattanooga Club is affiliated with NRA and operates under safety regulations adopted by NRA.

"I hasten to point to the widespread urge to shoot guns. Boys and girls, men and women, in our community universally have some desire to be acquainted with firearms. It is a natural heritage from our forefathers who have distinguished themselves as rifle and pistol marksmen. The pressure to 'get out and shoot' is great.

"The Chattanooga Rifle Club, Inc., has recently purchased the Volunteer Ordnance Works rifle practice range. Through this facility, those citizens of our community who like to shoot can do so under competent instruction and with complete safety.

"Ignorance, coupled with firearms, spells accidents and fatalities. On the other hand, rifle shooting as practiced by enlightened marksmen is one of the safest sports.

"Properly to educate is the problem. Informed people would never expose their unsuspecting neighbors to a 'stray' shot. We urge those in our community who are interested in shooting their guns to arrange to receive NRA safety instructions and to use the range of the Chattanooga Rifle Club for their shooting practice.

NEW OFFICIAL SCORING GAUGES

In recent years the National Rifle Association has offered for sale only one type of "official" scoring gauge, the four-in-one.

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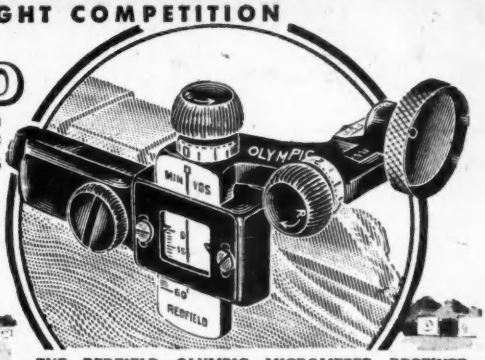

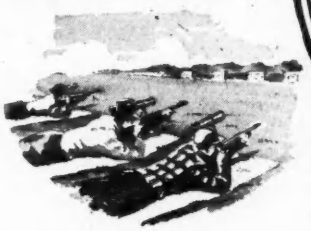

THE REDFIELD OLYMPIC MICROMETER RECEIVER SIGHT has been accepted by the most critical shooters as the perfect iron sight for serious match competition. Adjustable for all small-bore shooting positions without re-sighting for sight position changes. True return to zero when sight is removed and replaced. Designed to suit almost any style of holding. Eliminates interference with nose and thumb. Insures perfect accuracy ...instills confidence that every shot goes just where aimed. Write today for free folder showing Olympic Receiver and front sights.

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MULTIPLE RELOADING PRESS
Now made and sold by
MASTERS MACHINE WORKS
P.O. Box 185
Brookville, Penna.
Write for Pamphlet and Price List

RELOADERS SUPPLIES
BULLETS—I regularly stock Sisk, Speer, factory bullets as available and am taking the entire production of the new FADCO line. Bullets in stock for .22, .25, .270, 7mm, .30 and 8mm but stock changes rapidly, so send stamp for up to date list of available items.
PRIMERS—A SPECIAL PRICE of $5.80 per thousand on Western No. 6½ & 8½ rifle primers.
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High Standard, HD Military Model, Auto. Pistol, 6¾" barrel, cal. 22, $52.50. Smith and Wesson Military and Police Model Revolver, caliber 38 special, 4" and 5", $56.50.
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REBARRELING
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GUNMAKER'S Brand Shooter's Supplies
Improved Bluing Salts—Bluing Tanks
All work guaranteed
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The TOMPKINS PRECISION .22 PISTOL
A REAL single-shot .22 Cal. Pistol designed and made exclusively for target shooters. The gun—with patented trigger action that is improving the scores of expert and novice alike. Place your order through your dealer.
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Our new Micrometer Rear Sight is simple, sturdy and dependable. ACCURACY IS GUARANTEED. Self-locking click adjustments. Made for Hi-Standard Target Models, Match Target Woodsman, 45 Auto, and others.
See August Dope Bag
GREGOIRE ENGINEERING CO.
Box 3114 New Haven, Conn.

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Van's INSTANT GUN BLUE
$1.00 Kit... Removes grease, penetrates rust, leaves a satin blue-black finish. Takes minutes, not hours. Kit includes Gun Blue, cotton, Crocus cloth and steel wool. Ask your dealer... or write for folder.
C. S. VAN GORDEN & SON EAU CLAIRE, WIS.

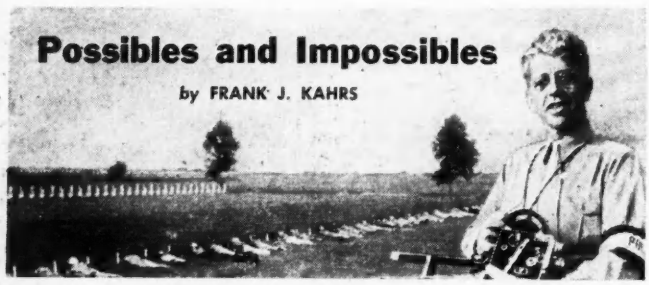
A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle

Remington

VOL. 11, NO. 10

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., NOVEMBER



Possibles and Impossibles

by FRANK J. KAHRS

A prominent New Hampshire smallbore shot, who has been in the Army throughout the war, and is still in it, writes me from Korea, and gives me some interesting angles on the country.

Says the hunting there is good. There is good pheasant hunting within an hour's drive and there are deer and boars quite near him, but they are just too smart for the average hunter. He stated that he was on a couple of hunts back in the mountains near Cho'nan and it was really very interesting hunting with the natives as guides, but they were never able to get a fair shot at boar. They get very large with some going over 500 pounds. They are very difficult to hunt, hanging out in the steepest mountains and keeping out of sight in the thick underbrush.

Some of our boys who served in the Army will have many interesting things to remember.

I'll bet it will feel good for this chap to get back to the good old granite state of New Hampshire, where men are tough and live a rugged life.

I'm always interested in unusual stories, or, for that matter, anything that I consider unique or interesting, so when I received a letter the other day from an old boy 75 years of age, who has just purchased a new Model 37 REMINGTON Rangemaster rifle and liked it so well that he had to write and tell about it, I considered this so interesting that I decided to tell my readers about it.

I would like to say that as soon as he got his rifle, he immediately laid down at 100 yards and knocked out a 10X and shot a 400-34 over the Dewar Course. But being a truthful person and with a reputation to sustain, regardless of how good that reputation is, I decided that I'd better stay with the facts. The best I can do is to say that five days after he bought the rifle he tried it out on a 50 foot range. After sighting it in he made 95 on the first try and 97 on the second for 10 shots.

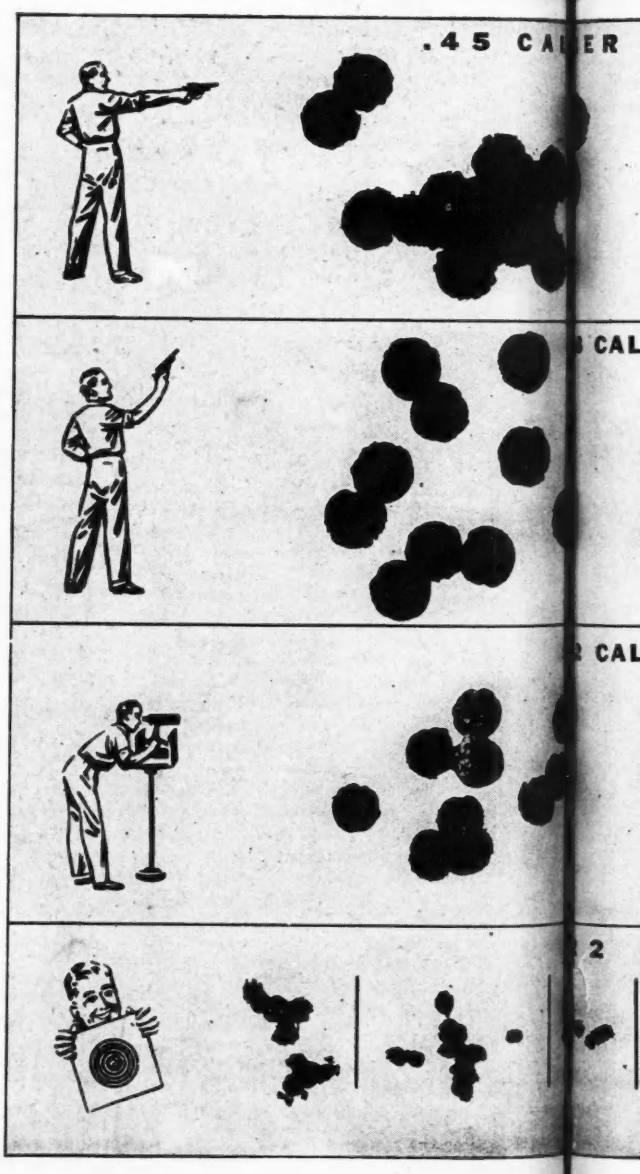
This old boy might be included in the "Wheelchair Special Match" which I have on for some future time with an old buddy of mine out in California. I can't identify him beyond saying that he is known as "Pappy" and several years ago he issued a defy to me to take him on some time for this match, which goes something like this:

You are wheeled up to the firing point in a wheelchair and you must fire from the chair without the aid of crutches. There are no other restrictions and the only thing you have to worry about is your whiskers, which may get tangled in the bolt of the rifle, and that would be bad! The only other restriction is that you must be at least 70 years old.

Palma, Kleanbore, Targetmaster are Reg. U.S. Pat. off. by Remington Arms Company, Bridgeport 2, Conn.

Remington Kleanbore 45 Automatic Targetmaster | Remington Kleanbore 38 Special Targetmaster | Remington Police Targetmaster | Palma Kleanbore 22 Long Rifle

REMINGTON M
CONSST



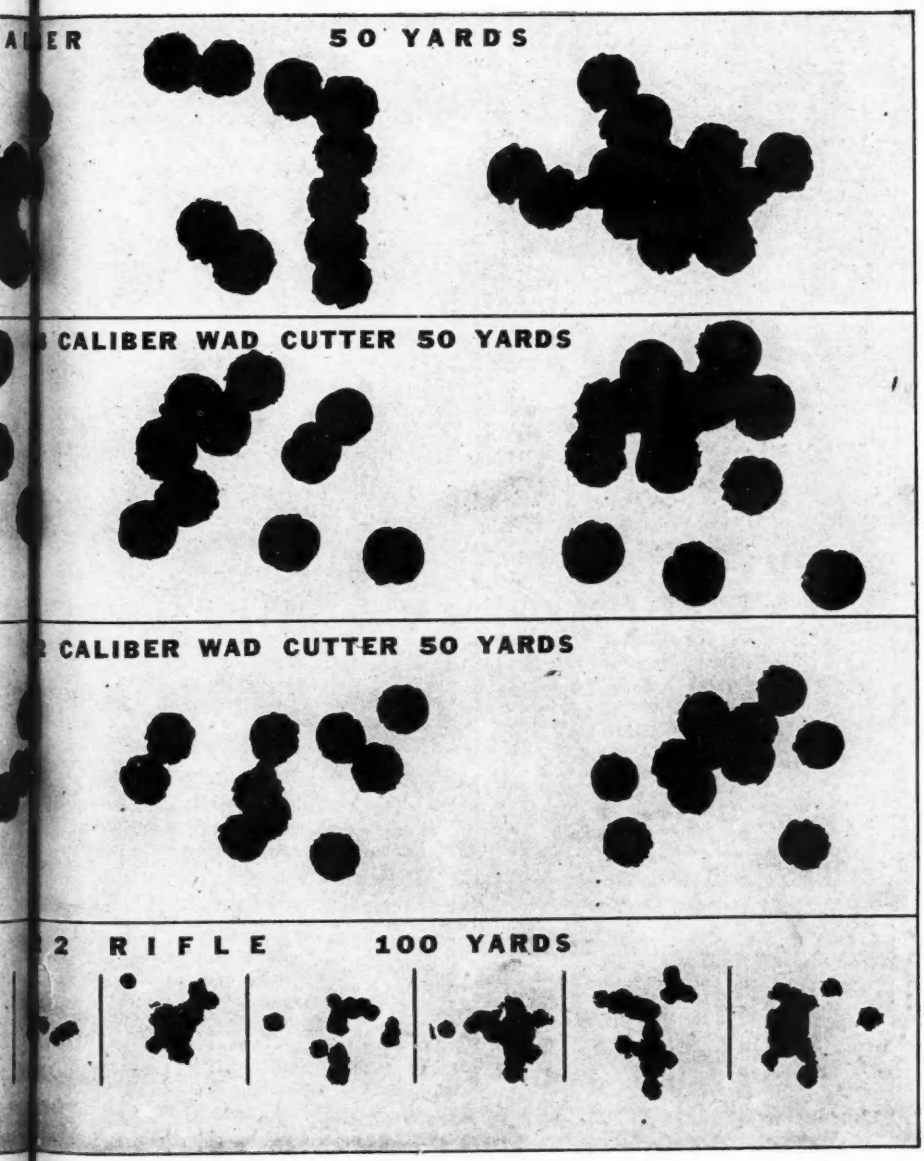
...gton News

CONN., NOVEMBER, 1947

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle and Pistol Shooters

WEATHER:
FINE FOR HUNTING, BUT BETTER START CLEANING UP THE INDOOR RANGE SOON!

...N MATCH AMMO GIVES ...SSTENTLY TIGHT GROUPS



Ballistics Experts At Remington Arms Check for Accuracy With Machine Rest

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., Nov., 1947. Ballistics experts at Remington Arms are constantly checking Remington ammunition as it comes off the loading machines. These tests keep a rigid check on performance, enabling shooters of Remington ammunition to be entirely confident that every lot is up to accepted high standards.

Accuracy tests are made with machine rests regularly, using cartridges picked at random. The groups reproduced at the left have been selected from these tests and are shown approximately actual size. The accuracy of Remington ammunition is ever apparent, as are the consistency and uniformity of the groups.

Of course, no ammunition can count as heavily toward a winning score as your own skill and performance. And no ammunition can shoot better groups than your gun is capable of producing. Nevertheless, there *is* a difference in ammunition which not only gives you tighter and more consistent grouping, but can also give you added confidence when the competition gets hottest. Remington match ammunition is definitely your best bet!

Ever guarding the perfection of Remington ammunition against the slightest drop in specifications or performance, Remington technicians conduct many other tests as well.

We know you want to shoot match ammunition that "measures up," whether the match is handgun or rifle. We take pride in producing ammunition that groups so well during day to day control tests and on firing points of pistol and rifle clubs the world over.

AMMUNITION

9 m/m Luger, (P-38, Browning H.P., Radom) minimum order 200 rounds, Box of 50 $4.50
6.5 x 55 m/m Swedish Mauser, Norwegian Krag, 139 gr. Boattail, 170 gr. Softnose, minimum order 80 rounds, Box of 20 $3.70
7.9 x 57 m/m (8 m/m Mauser) 194 gr. Softnose, minimum order 80 rounds, Box of 20 $3.90
9.3 x 74 m/m Rim, 285 gr. Softnose, minimum order 40 rounds, Box of 20 $10.50
This ammunition is commercial post war factory loaded with non-mercuric, non-corrosive components, and is of foreign manufacture. Prices include freight, packing and handling. All above prices subject to change without notice.

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For Making Punches Chisels Engraving Tools Shafts, Etc.

Free machining, easily worked, yet can be made file hard. Hardening instructions included! ORDER TODAY.

FREE With Every Kit or first order 6" Steel comb. rule & depth gage with pocket clip.

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The Precision ground flat tool steel with the satin-smooth finish. Simple to work, easy to harden, ready to use.
SHOP ASSORTMENT ---------- $4.80
5 dif. Pieces—1/32" to ⅛" thick; ½" wide; 18" long.
Include 25¢ postage on orders under $5.00.
We can supply ALL your Tool Steel Needs.

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Most Calibers

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Good Used, individual focus 6x30 Model BE $37.50 to $47.50. 7x50 COATED optics $90. 7x50 NEW COATED $120. BRAND NEW Universal 6x30 with COATED optics, regular $102, our price $69. Many other excellent used binoculars, guaranteed. Universal 6x30, recent lightweight models $37.50, fungus proof model $45. Naval Gun Factory models 6x30 $29.50 to $37.50. Sard Navy 7x50 $70. Hensoldt NEW 6x30 featherweight $95, NEW 8x56 $135. All with case. All prices include 20% tax. Send for list of others. B&L 20x65 mm. spotting scopes $75. Shotguns 12-gage Stevens 26-in. Weaver choke $45.

LOUIS DOMINGUES 3501 Asbury Dallas 5, Texas

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2203 Highland Ave. Utica, N. Y.
EXPERT GUN BLUING
All Makes and Models

Browning method used in bluing. Controlled humidity guarantees uniform color. This is not a quick blue, but professional bluing, as done in gun manufacturing plants. Will not damage solder, ribs, etc. Over twenty years in charge of gun bluing at Savage Arms Corp., Utica, N. Y.

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DOT RETICULES for any 'scope. Perfectly round, accurately sized, exceptional strength. Weaver, Alaskan Texan 'scopes; King-Pike, Redfield, Weaver mounts; Litschert attachments. FREE FOLDER & price list.

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INSTANT "BLUE STEEL" GUN FINISH
Not a Paint-Not a Lacquer
MAGIC COLD CHEMICAL
Restores finish on 5 Guns. No heating! Can't injure steel. Simple process. Takes minutes.
$1
GET Free descriptive circular
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JACKETED .22 Cal. BULLETS
Made From All New Materials
.224"—46, 50 and 55 gr. SOFT POINT
Write for new prices

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MASTER GUNSTOCK FINISH

Oil type finish—filler and oil combined. Saves time and labor—produces a beautiful and durable finish. Enough for several stocks. $1.00 postpaid. Discount to dealers.

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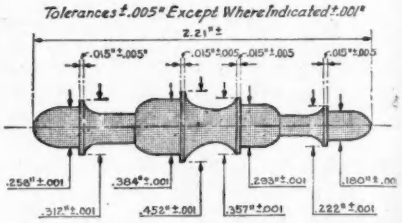
Ammo., Match $12.90 M; Reg. $10.75 M—Wilson—B&M Tools—Lyman Scope Blocks—Win. & Rem. Primers $6.30 M—Dupont Powders, Rifle $1.75 lb.; Pistol $1.10 ½-lb.—The New Redding Powder Scale $6.50—G&H 2R Lovell Cases $5.00 per 100—Myers' Sling-Eze Cuffs & Straps—New Army Type Slings $2.00—Croft "Factory Seconds" Coats $7.25—Cleaning Rods & Supplies—Samworth Books —Other Items. Write for latest list and prices.

R. W. SPROWLS 1000-7th Ave., S.E. Cedar Rapids, Iowa

There has been justifiable criticism that this old gauge often did not meet the specifications for flange dimensions listed in Official Rule Books, and, *no* dimensions were specified for the size of the shaft or spindle for the various caliber gauges. The NRA Technical Staff checked the flange and spindle dimensions on numerous types of scoring gauges to determine the optimum dimension differences between flange and spindle.



Official dimensions of the new scoring gauge

Official dimensions for the spindle diameter for .22, .32, .38, and .45 caliber have now been determined. A definite standard was also decided upon for the thickness of the flange for the various calibers. All of these Official dimensions for the various types of scoring gauges are indicated on the adjacent drawing and photograph. It will be noted that the critical dimensions, those of the flanges and spindles, are held to the very close tolerance of ± .001 inch. It was essential that these dimensions be held to close tolerances in order that the difference in diameter between the spindle and flange would not be too great or too small.

The new four-in-one scoring gauge and the .22 caliber pencil-type scoring gauge were used at the recent Camp Perry Matches, and the comments about them were very favorable. The price of the four-in-one gauge is $1.00 and the pencil scoring gauge $1.50. Both of the gauges are packaged in attractive boxes.

Official NRA "pencil" scoring gauge

CHALLENGES

The Coca Cola Gun Club of Cincinnati, Ohio, is seeking gallery matches with other rifle clubs. They will fire four positions, or prone and standing, or prone at 50 feet, with high five scores comprising team total. Clubs interested in matches with them should contact U. S. Vance, Secretary, 4217 Sibley Ave., Silverton, Cincinnati 13, Ohio.

The "B" team of the Keene Rifle Club desires postal matches with other "B" teams

throughout the country. For information concerning the course of fire and conditions, write Ora B. Smith, 17 South Lincoln St., Keene, N. H.

The Mohawk Rifle and Pistol Club, Old Town, Maine, is seeking postal matches with other clubs over the three-stage gallery course at 50 feet. Write Joseph R. Boucher, Secretary, Mohawk Rifle and Pistol Club, Old Town, Maine.

RICOCHETS

SERVICE TO HUNTERS

Sheboygan, Wis.

I wonder how many rifle clubs are going to "cash in" this hunting season by making arrangements to sight in rifles for prospective hunters? One live outfit here in Wisconsin does a complete job for hunters in its community. This sighting-in session has become a popular annual feature for sportsmen who like their yearly hunting trip but who have other interests which keep them from shooting the year around. On the weekend which precedes the sighting in, the club gets good newspaper publicity. Showcards in sporting goods stores also help to spread the word of the "meet."

On a weekend just prior to the opening of deer season, the entire range is turned over to this activity. Every member of the club has a job to do.

When the hunter first shows up at the range, his gun is properly tagged with his name. His ammunition—all of it—is taken over and placed with the gun which goes in a rack. At this time the fee charged for the service is paid.

Hunters are called in turn to a table where their guns *and ammunition* are inspected for safety and usability. If the gun or ammunition is not safe to fire, they are turned back to the hunter. Small repair jobs can be taken care of on the spot by the local gunsmith, but club members should not make repairs.

If all is well with the gun and ammunition, they are returned to the rack. By turns the hunters are called to the firing line—100 or 200 yards, bullseye targets—where the gun is sighted in by a club member. The owner is beside the shooter while this goes on so he can see just how the sights are moved and knows where the gun shoots. After being properly sighted in the owner becomes the shooter and fires five or ten shots while the club member coaches him.

Another part of the range is devoted to hunters who wish to fire more than the five shots which followed the sighting in. Over on this part of the range they can continue to shoot for a range fee. Some good instructors are kept there. They can do a lot of good for inexperienced shooters. Safety is preached all the time.

JOE SMITHERS

LYMAN ALASKAN

Middlefield, Conn.

Editor:

On page 17 of the September RIFLEMAN the Lyman Alaskan Scope is mentioned as 4½ power costing $70. Actually we have

Spots in Your Gun?
***Use* HOPPE'S No. 9**

Sight through the bore! See any dark spots? Could be tenacious lead or metal fouling but Hoppe's No. 9 Solvent will bring it out and remove or prevent rust too. At your dealer's or send us 10c for sample. Helpful "Gun Cleaning Guide" FREE upon request.

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Beautiful Knotty Pine GUN RACK

Gun lovers! Here's biggest value in years—a beautiful Gun Rack, finished in Knotty Pine or any wood finish you choose for ONLY $12.50 in the 2-Gun size. Price cut to $15.00 for the 3-Gun rack and only $17.50 for the 4-Gun model. Formerly sold in swank sporting goods stores as high as $55.00! Chest at bottom hold ammunition, sectional ramrods, miscellaneous hunters' trappings. Beautifies any room. Keeps guns safe out of harm's way.

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Offer will not be repeated when present stock is exhausted. Be sure to specify 2-gun model ($12.50), 3-gun ($15.00), or 4-gun ($17.50). Send check or M.O. No C.O.D.

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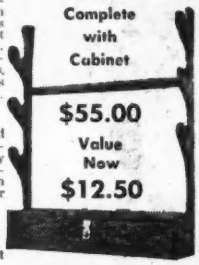

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I will be back on the job, ready to handle your Speed Action jobs about the first of the year. Please send no more rifles until further notice.

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Phone 390J1 Rt. 1—Box 95

SMALL-BORE SHOOTERS

Install the famous Thomas Trigger Mechanism on your 52 Winchester or your 37 Remington Rangemaster.

Improve your scores as many others have done in the past.

Price $20.40

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K6

K 6 shown with Type U Top Mount: can be used with almost any gun
$48.50

WEAVER SCOPE

6 POWER • HARD COATED LENSES
HUNTING SCOPE STURDINESS
THE IDEAL VARMINTER

The K6 can be used on any rifle from 22's to heaviest calibers; the ¼" click adjustments give target scope accuracy. Needlesharp definition and brilliant illumination make it ideal for long range shooting of crows, hawks, woodchucks, prairie dogs, and jack rabbits. See the K6 at your dealer's today.

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A Complete Line

K 4 — 4 X — $45.00
K2.5 — 2½X — $37.50
J 4 — 4 X — $27.50
J2.5 — 2½X — $22.50
G 6 — 6 X — $12.50
including N mount
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including N mount

Please send folders on WEAVER-SCOPES and Mounts:
Model K ☐ Model J ☐ Model G ☐ Weaver-Choke ☐
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Here's a scope sight built to precision standards, yet designed to take a beating in the woods. Streamlined . . . feather weight (7 oz.). Improved optical system gives wider field, quicker sighting. Positive, micrometer type elevation and windage adjustment offers a new thrill for the hunter interested in **FAST, ACCURATE** shooting.

See the **LEUPOLD RIFLESCOPE** at your sports shop or write **Dept. 3** for descriptive folder.

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Exclusive LEUPOLD Windage and Elevation Adjustment

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Winter Favorites for Men and Boys

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The Perfect Christmas Gift!

Now *you* can get these brand new Army Aviators' Boots—just released as war surplus! Wonderful for sports, outdoor work, hunting, riding, flying, school and stadium wear, "heavy" weather. Completely sheep-lined (like a mitten); heavy waterproof rubber bottoms; non-slip soles; soft brown leather uppers; spring-lock zipper with raw-hide pull; two adjustable straps for real snug fit; full 10½" height.

only **$9.95** per pair!

Wear them with or without shoes—in every kind of weather! They're built for long, comfortable, all-round wear. Order by mail today, in time for Christmas—send check or money order (add 50¢ for postage and handling), or order C.O.D. Mention your shoe size. Immediate delivery. Satisfaction guaranteed.

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FULL LENGTH ZIPPER SHEEPSKIN GUN CASE
CUSTOM-MADE BY NICHOLS

This new improved sheepskin gun case - an exclusive Nichols' design - is without question the finest most practical case ever made. Individually cut for perfect form fit. Thoroughly reinforced around breech, butt and muzzle, and bound with elk leather.

PRICE POSTPAID

Standard Size Case	$13.85
Bolt Action Rifles	$14.95
Rifles with Sport Scope	$16.95
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Handles or sling strap-optional

When ordering - be sure to send outline drawing of gun or rifle with scope mounted.
Send check. Order Now. Ask for new Sportsmen's Catalog.
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BE A DEAD SHOT!
SEND FOR
PRACTICAL PISTOLEERING
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A WHOLE SERIES OF REVOLVER SHOOTING MANUALS IN ONE:

1. Super-speed Guns
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STOP Looking Thru Smudgy Eye Glasses

Now—an amazing scientific discovery cleans eye glasses in **27 seconds.** Cleans, polishes! Banishes finger marks "as if by magic." One application lasts two weeks. **SEND NO MONEY.** Full year's supply in plastic compact sent C. O. D. for only 59¢ plus charges. 2 for $1.00. Send cash, we send prepaid. **Money-back guarantee.** Agents wanted. Address 27 Second Cleaner Co., Dept. 376-P, 6337 N. Talman, Chicago 45, Ill.

never made, nor do we intend to make a 4½ power, and the cost of the Alaskan is $60.

A. J. GRIFFIN,
Lyman Gun Sight Corp.

The Lyman Alaskan is 2½ power scope. Also, price of the Maxwell Smith G88's is $50, not $40.—Ed.

COMING EVENTS

The four classes of registered tournaments are indicated as follows:

AA—National Matches.
A—Regional Tournaments.
B—State Championship or large district matches.
C—Local Tournaments.
Un—Indicates tournaments that are not registered.

Tournaments requiring Advance Entries are indicated by **Adv.** and tournaments that plan to limit the entries to a predetermined number are indicated by **Ltd.**

NOVEMBER

2, California (Un)—Southland Pistol Matches. R. S. Pease, Route 3, Box 84, San Diego.
2, California (Un)—Oakland Pistol Matches. J. H. Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Ave., Oakland, 11.
2, California (C)—Small Bore League Match, Richmond. Chilton DeWitt, 3701 Lincoln Ave., Oakland.
8, Mass. (C)—R. S. Warren Memorial Junior Rifle Tournament, Lowell. Lenox S. Karner, Jr., State Hospital, Tewksberry.
8-9, California (B)—Eleventh Anual Southern California Small Bore Championship. George C. Worden, 621 W. Valerio St., Santa Barbara. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**
8-9 Florida (C)—Florida West Coast Small Bore Championships. L. W. Abrams, 705 Prospect Ave., Clearwater. **(Adv.)**
9, Mass. (C)—First Annual Southern Berkshire Gallery Rifle Tournament. John Williams, Greenridge Farm, R.F.D. #3, Great Barrington. **(Adv.)**
16, Florida (C)—Florida East Coast Pistol League Match, Hollywood. A. P. Kelly, Jr., Box 43, Coral Gables. **(Adv.)**
16, California (C)—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol, Lake Merced. Emile J. Dutil, 324 16th Ave., San Francisco, 18.
23, Penna. (Un)—Blue Mountain Muzzle-Loading Turkey Shoot. Dr. J. E. Hirtle, Jr., Bath.
30, California (C)—77th Street Division Gun Club Holiday Pistol. Claire Bourelle, 2114 W. 84th Street, Los Angeles 44. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**

DECEMBER

6-7, Iowa (C)—Fall Indoor Small Bore. Howard O. Smith, Box 1395, Des Moines. **(Adv.-Ltd.)**
7, California (Un)—Oakland Pistol Matches. J. H. Valerga, Jr., 3800 Cerrito Ave., Oakland, 11.
7, California (Un)—Southland Pistol Match. R. S. Pease, Police Range, 40th & A Sts., San Diego, 2.
7, Oregon (C)—First Annual Gallery Rifle Tournament. Albert P. Tanscher, 1849 S. W. Salmon St., Portland.
21, California (C)—San Francisco Police Monthly Pistol, Lake Merced. Emile J. Dutil, 324 16th Ave., San Francisco, 18.

STOLEN GUNS

Model 52 Winchester heavy barrel, No. 62256B, mounting Fecker telescope No. 8445. William E. Duncan, 617 E. Cypress Ave., Burbank, Calif.

Italian Beretta 7.65 mm. autonatic pistol, No. 564562, and Walther Model PP 7.65 mm. double-action automatic pistol, No. 103113. James E. Moon, 782 Amsterdam Ave., New York 25, N. Y.

A .22 caliber Colt revolver, No. 645813. Lloyd C. Bloomer, Osborne, Kansas.

German Luger, No. 4300; Luger, No. 3564; .380 Colt auto pistol, No. 12923; .25 Colt pistol, No. 374089; .25 cal. Astra pistol, No. 265098; .22 Hi-Standard pistol, No. 13109; .25 caliber auto pistol, No. A-44978; .45 caliber Colt auto pistol, No. 953563; .25 caliber Walther pistol, No. 404422; .32 caliber Walther pistol, No. 512418; .32 caliber Savage pistol, No. 248793. All were stolen from Star Sporting Goods Co., 83 Third St., San Francisco 3, Calif., Sept. 18.

A .22 caliber Hi-Standard Model H-D with 4½ inch barrel, serial No. 130930. Twenty-dollar reward for return in good condition. M/Sgt. James G. Webster, Sqdn. "B", 401 AAFBU, Hamilton Field, Calif.

Winchester M94 .30-30 carbine, serial No. 753-795, lost near Cow Creek Camp, Calif. Reward. F. D. Parkinson, Box 497, Lafayette, Calif.

A .45 caliber Colt service pistol Model 1911-A, serial No. 705404. Lt. Col. Harry Larson, 1407 Second Ave. North, Fort Dodge, Iowa.

U. S. Army .30 caliber carbine, serial No.7469-751. Criminal Investigation Department, Headquarters, Fort Lawton, Washington.

The SPOTTING SCOPE With RAY STANN

This being that time of year again we'd like to offer this checklist for embryo hunters . . . and possibly for a few vets:

*Before leaving the house . . . Is that gun in the safest possible condition and is it matched properly with the correct ammo?

*In the car . . . Is that gun unloaded and cased?

*In the field . . . Is that gun muzzle pointed away from everyone? . . . Are you certain your target is the game you're after? . . . Are you aware of all buildings and populated areas within range of your bullet? . . . Is the position of each member of your party known to you? . . . Are you paying proper respect to the rights and property of landowners—and other hunters?

☆ ☆ ☆

'Tain't so that the newly formed American Shooting Association, announced in last month's issue, is competing with NRA . . . Contrarily, Sid Hinds' Co. gun organization should spur interest in organized target shooting (teams especially) and bring in some powder-burning converts . . . Up from the floor: A letter from the Philippine Rifle and Pistol Association shows 38 ranges under its jurisdiction in the Islands . . . NRA mail bags in September brought in application for four more gun clubs from Hawaii, bringing that territory's total to seven groups now affiliated . . . The first .30 caliber competition at Camp Perry since 1940 brought out 131 Buckeye competitors for the September Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association matches . . . highly successful and due largely to hardworking Ray Bayless, of Cleveland . . . Big winners were A. E. Hart, of Cleveland, in the individual firing, and the Ashland (Ohio) Club team . . . Comparative figures show down-but-not-out British riflemen made a favorable showing at last summer's Bisley meeting . . . 573 competitors compared to 736 Camp Perry riflemen . . . 19,892 targets fired as against 22,280 Perry rifle tagboards . . . and 387,840 shots fired, nearly matching the 445,600 rifle bullets which sailed across the Perry green.

☆ ☆ ☆

Seventy years ago . . . New York papers announced: *"During the past week a telephone was used at the grounds at Creedmoor. It connected the targets used in the international match with the firing points, and was of great service, as disputed points were settled with its aid accurately and quickly, and it became unnecessary to employ the cavalry service hitherto required.*

"Last year, a score challenge would have made necessary a cessation of the firing and a gallop by General Hawley to the butts and back, while last Thursday . . . the desired information was sent over the wire."

That was in 1877 B. A. (Before Ameche), and only one year after Bell's invention made its bow, that the telephone, still in swaddling clothes displaced the cavalry horse . . . at the old National Guard rifle range at Creedmoor, N. J.

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Wrinkle finished aluminum tube, chrome plated brass draw tube. Micrometer focusing. Weighs 23 ounces. Measures 2⅛" x 13" closed, 17" open.

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Model 365 "Reg'lar" Bolt Action Single Shot 22 Caliber Barrel Length 22" $29.65
Model 48 "Topper" Single Barrel Shotgun 12-16-20 Gauge Barrel Length 30" $20.85

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New Remington Junior Special . Removing Nickel-Plating . .270 Loads . Shotgun Trainer . More on Stock Finishing Collecting Fired Cartridge Cases . Aid for Drilling Metal . Longo Cartridges .405 and .401 To Be Made Again . German Ammunition Identification . 8 mm. Loads . Trade Dope . Book Review

NEW REMINGTON JUNIOR SPECIAL

Arms manufacturers have been so busy trying to satisfy the great demand for models of prewar guns, for which they were tooled up, that they have had little opportunity to think of new designs. In spite of this, Remington has marketed a .22 rimfire rifle for the neglected Junior target shooter.

This rifle, the Junior Special Model 521TL, is a smaller version of the famous medium-priced 513-T target rifle at a lower price, $39.95.**

We have felt the need for a Junior target rifle for a long time and awaited the shipment of the Model 521TL with keen interest. After, literally and figuratively, taking the rifle apart for a critical examination, we find many pleasing features. It has an attractive appearance and, functionally, is practically the equivalent of the 513-T, with an action that appears to be interchangeable with the action of that rifle. We have noticed, however, that the 521TL sent us does not have the trigger-cushioning spring found on the 513-T. It is equipped with a fine little target sight, the Lyman 57 R2 micrometer-click rear sight.

The chamber in the 521TL differs slightly from the one in the 513-T. The former is slightly smaller in diameter than the latter but the rifling starts further ahead of the breech and meets the chamber at an abrupt shoulder. The 513-T has a tapered throat joining the chamber with the origin of the rifling and more nearly approaches the tighter chamber dimensions found in the highest-priced target rifles.

The new rifle has four lands and grooves. The groove diameter mikes .2205 inch, which is tighter than any other target rifle that we have checked. The Remington 513-T has a groove diameter of .2210 inch. What this adds up to in the way of accuracy in the average rifle is rather difficult to say as yet.

Unfortunately, Junior shooters don't come with anything close to equal body measurements and it is therefore impossible to make a rifle that fits all of them. Obviously a compromise is indicated, but we do not feel that Remington has gone far enough. The stock, with the aid of the adjustable front swivel, will fit the larger juniors—say those around 14 years or older—but it will not fit the smaller fry.

From arm pit to finger tips the average 11-year-old will measure about 23 inches. He needs a rifle measuring approximately 11½ inches from butt to trigger and 11 inches from trigger to "hand stop," or front swivel. The 521-TL measures 13¼ inches from butt to trigger and the front swivel can be moved between locations 12¼ and 14½ inches from the trigger.

The rifle weighs seven pounds, which is satisfactory for the small lad but the larger boy who will fit the stock can handle a heavier gun. The rifle can be reduced for the smaller youngster by cutting off the butt and mounting the adjustable front swivel further back on the fore-end.

The front sight is a patridge-type blade fitted in a standard dovetail. If Remington had gone just a little further, they could have put a hooded front sight on the rifle with aperture inserts. Very few small bore shooters use the blade sight any more, so why not bring the Junior up to date? However, since the standard dovetail is used on the front, it is possible to knock the blade out and mount a hooded sight for formal target shooting.

Some of the important specifications of the new rifle, not already given, are: 25-inch tapered round barrel, crowned at the muzzle; American walnut stock; black Bakelite butt plate; self-cocking bolt; double extractors; double-locking lugs on the bolt; firing indicator; side lever safety; seven-shot capacity (one in the chamber and six in the box magazine); one-inch leather sling; an overall length of 43 inches; a stock length of 29½ inches; a length taken down of 31 inches.—E. B.

REMOVING NICKEL-PLATING

Can you tell me how to remove nickel-plating from weapons? A method was described in THE RIFLEMAN several years ago, but lacking an index it is impossible to find the article.—E. R. PAGE, Norman, Oklahoma.

Answer: There are a number of ways to remove the nickel-plating from firearms. Probably the simplest method not requiring a lot of equipment is to dissolve 10 grams ammonium persulphate and 5 grams ammonium carbonate in 100 c.c.'s of 28 percent stronger ammonia.

The degreased parts are laid in the cold solution, preferably in a wide-mouth glass-stopper jar. It should be airtight to avoid the loss of ammonia. Denickeling is complete when the uniform grey color of the underlying iron or steel appears on the whole surface of the piece. Then rinse, dry, and oil or blue the parts as required.

The solution is quite stable and will keep indefinitely in glass-stopper bottles. It does not attack iron so long as the loss of ammonia is kept to a minimum. Therefore, store it away from direct sunlight and in a cool place.—A. H. B.

.270 LOADS

I have loaded some 150-grain bullets with 45 grains of No. 4064 powder for my .270 Winchester. The cases and primers of this load look O. K. and extraction is O. K., but it was selected by guesswork since I could not find one listed for this particular powder and bullet. Would you say this charge is too heavy or, if not, how much more powder would you recommend? I notice that this load strikes about 7 inches higher at 100 yards than a factory loaded .270 Remington 130-grain bullet.—L. F. LOWERY, Springfield, Mass.

Answer: We have gone to 48.5 grains of Du Pont No. 4064 powder with 145-grain W.T.&C.W. bullets. I believe you could go that high with the 150-grain, but do it progressively. Do not jump to the higher load, but increase the charge a half-grain at a time.

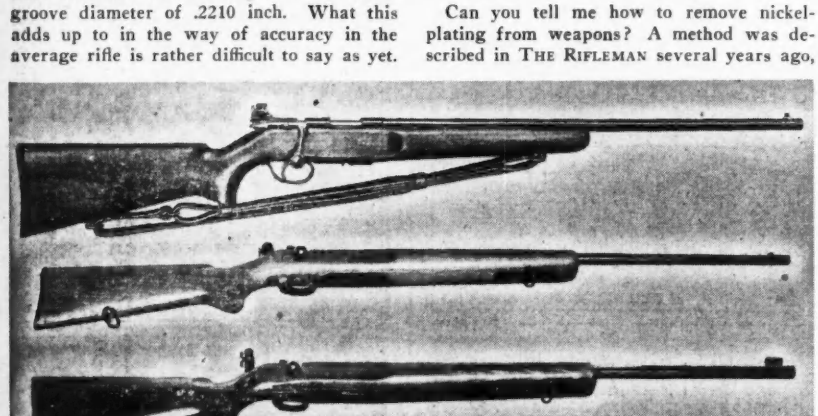
I do not know exactly what the velocity of your load would be. If you have a good bullet I believe No. 4350 powder would be better in the .270. One shooter went up to 56 grains, and I believe even to 58 grains, with a 130-grain bullet. About 53 to 54 grains might make a good load with the 150-grain bullet. The maximum recommended load of No. 3031 with the 150-grain bullet is 45.5 grains, which gives 2750 foot-seconds velocity.

The higher impact is caused by the difference in bullet weight and not necessarily by high velocity.—A. H. B.

SHOTGUN TRAINER

The Parris-Dunn Associates, Clarinda, Iowa, have marketed a "Shoot-Rite Tri-Pak." The "Pak" contains a lever-action gun which shoots a cork, a rotating target on folding stand, and the "Shoot-Rite Manual of Marksmanship." Parris-Dunn tell us that the "Tri-Pak" is to be advertised at a retail price of $7.75.

My two boys and daughter as well as other children in the neighborhood have been using this set, aided by the training informa-



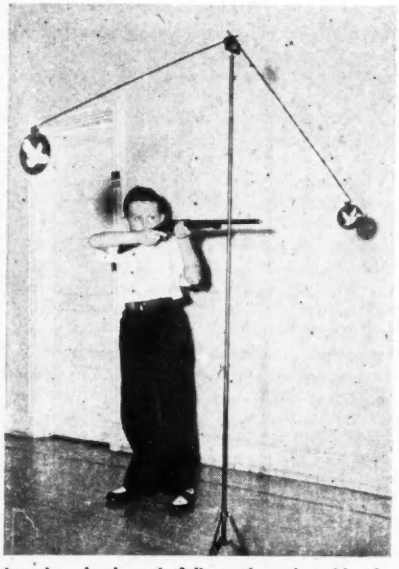
Two views of the new Remington 521TL target rifle (above) for Junior shooters. The 521TL is a scaled-down version of the Remington 513-T (below), a very popular rifle among target shooters

tion contained in the manual. The children range in age from seven to fourteen. The grown-ups have enjoyed shooting it as well.

The manual is written for Parris-Dunn by Henry E. Bradshaw and features "Buckshot" Wilson whom you may have seen in sport show attractions. The manual is well-illustrated and furnishes some good hints on shooting at moving targets. It also stresses what is expected of a good sportsman in the way of safe handling of the shotgun.

The "Ro-Target" (target and stand) is well constructed. The gun is not elaborate but adequate. We have fired several hundred shots with no malfunctions. The set is excellent for teaching lead and follow through and if you "shoot-rite" you will hit the target.

There is a lot of fun and good training in the Parris-Dunn package for $7.75.—E. B.



Learning lead and follow through with the gun and "Ro-Target" from the "Shoot-Rite" Kit

MORE ON STOCK FINISHING

Although we have published several recommended methods for a quick stock finish, the following suggestions might prove helpful. Anyone who has done any stock refinishing will know that, by the older recommended methods, the job is quite tedious and long drawn out. Even after much work the final outcome is not always the best. When the accepted method of nothing but linseed oil is used the finish might be too dark, thus hiding an otherwise beautifully-grained stock.—A. H. B.

I read with much interest "Rapid Stock Finish" by Henry Flannery in the July Dope Bag and also the article by Alfred Giertz in the May issue.

Before finishing a stock by the Flannery modification of the method used by Giertz, I would recommend a pause for study.

First, no oil should ever be used which does not dry and oxidize in and on the wood, forming a part of the finish. No machine oil will do this. It apparently gives a fine looking finish, but over a period of time will produce results far from first appearances. The machine oil is free in the wood and will

Canted to Left

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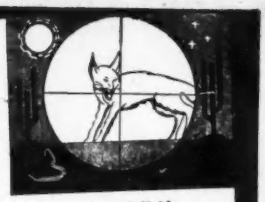

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(* see Pg 2 Jan '47 Rifleman)

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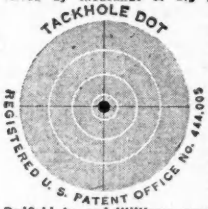

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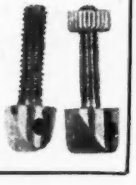

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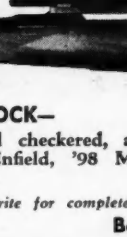

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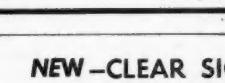

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spread as time goes on, never oxidizing and becoming fixed in place. It will blacken and destroy the figure in the wood.

The method advanced by Mr. Giertz is a good one and will produce a fine and lasting finish, because no oils are used which will not dry and become a part of the surface of the wood and the finish.

Here is another method which will produce a fine durable finish over night. It is not original, having been recommended by the late Alvin Linden in his booklet on stock finishing.

Prepare the wood by dewhiskering in the usual manner, then brush the stock thoroughly with a small scrub brush to remove all fine dust and particles from the pores. Take white shellac and linseed oil, half and half, shake well to mix, put some of the mixture on a wad of soft cloth and rub it on the stock. Rub with a circular motion, not letting the cloth stop while in contact with the wood. Rub like the Dickens and when the spot seems dry, which it will be in a few seconds, repeat on another spot overlapping the first one. Cover the entire stock and then start over with another coat. After about four coats, if you have the time, hang the stock up overnight, sand off in the morning, and give it one or two more coats. If you do not have the time and must have the stock ready for use by morning, sand off after about the fourth coat and rub on more coats (one or two) until you are satisfied with the results. The stock can be taken out the next day and used, and the finish will stay put. The linseed oil will oxidize in the wood and result in a tough, durable finish second to none. The wood will not blacken, losing the figure in it.—F. O. ROBERTSON, Ainsworth, Nebraska.

COLLECTING FIRED CARTRIDGE CASES

About a year ago I decided to start a collection of fired cases and projectiles. For the first couple of months I was quite successful in borrowing guns and obtaining samples, but I have now exhausted my supply of friends' guns and find myself stalemated.

I have thought that perhaps other would-be students of firearms are in the same fix. I own several pistols that are not common in this country and would be glad to trade samples of fired projectiles and cases.—WALTER R. BORG, 425 South 7th Street, Richmond, Calif.

Answer: It is highly important for any student of firearms investigation and identification to have as many fired cases and projectiles as possible, each identified as to the name, make, and caliber of the gun from which it was fired.

Cooperation among students of the subject, accompanied by a little trading back and forth, would make it relatively easy to acquire such a collection.—J. S. H.

AID FOR DRILLING METAL

I have a little suggestion for gun cranks. Instead of using oil as a lubricant while drilling and tapping metal of any kind, including copper and brass, try using carbon tetrachloride.

I think you will say it is better by far than oil.—ELLIS MILLER, Cascade Locks, Oregon.

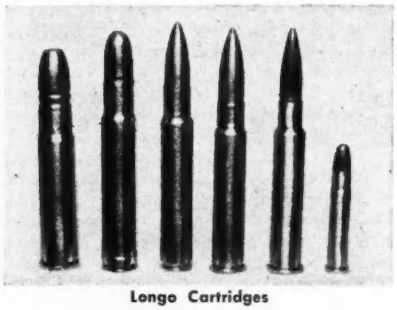
LONGO CARTRIDGES

I am getting tooled up to produce good ammo in 6.5 mm. caliber with American-made cases (new) and suitable American-made bullets that will fit Jap rifles properly. So, tell your readers not to rechamber all of them for wildcats.

I have designed other cartridges besides those for the Jap rifles, as you know from the six samples I have already sent you.—HERBERT P. LONGO, 135 W. Plum St., Trinidad, Colo.

Answer: Anyone who can get out a good, satisfactory cartridge for the Jap rifle will find that a lot of people are interested in it, judging by the volume of correspondence we have on the subject.

The six cartridges sent in are pictured herewith. As we have not had an opportunity to try these out, we are not in a position to comment on them except to say that some of the charges recommended seem to be a little high.



Longo Cartridges

The Longo cartridges shown are (left to right): .446 Longo Special made from .348 case; .413 40 degree M.B.T. Longo Belted Magnum with 300 grain .405 caliber bullet loaded to 2571 feet per second (forty degree M.B.T. means 40 degree shoulder and minimum body taper—that is .005 inches per inch taper on the case body); .35 caliber .30-'06 40 degree M.B.T.; .35 caliber .30-K 40 degree M.B.T. with 250 grain bullet of 2620 feet per second (.30-K indicates that cartridge is made from a .30 Krag case); .30 caliber .30-K 40 degree M.B.T. with 180 grain bullet at 3093 feet per second with powder No. 4064 or 3603 feet per second with HiVel No. 2; .25 caliber No. 2 40 degree M.B.T. Longo (Hornet case expanded to .25 caliber) 60 grain open-point bullet at 1977 feet per second.—J. S. H.

.405 and .401 TO BE MADE AGAIN

Many of our readers will be glad to learn that at a meeting of the Standing Committee for Simplified Practice of the National Bureau of Standards, U. S. Dept. of Commerce, held at Atlantic City on October 14, 1947, it was decided to restore the .405 Winchester, soft point, and the .401 Winchester Self-Loading, soft point, to the list of cartridges designated as standard for manufacture.

At previous meetings of this Committee the Government, the arms and ammunition manufacturers, and the distributors, that is, the Wholesale Hardware Associations, have been represented, but the ultimate user has had no one to present his views. Now, however, the National Rifle Association has a member on the Standing Committee, thus for the first time giving the shooter a voice in the proceedings.

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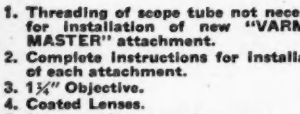

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Other action by the Standing Committee included approval of the recommendations that the 3½-inch 10-gauge and the 3-inch 12-gauge long range shotgun shells be made with the brass cup the same length as that of the 2⅞-inch 10-gauge and the 2¾-inch 12-gauge High Velocity shells, that is, the maximum height of brass cup to be .860 inch instead of 1.09 inches for the 10 gauge and .850 inch instead of 1.07 inches for the 12-gauge. This change will in no way affect the functioning of the ammunition and will conserve metal besides eliminating one additional variety of component.

In the metallic lines, recommendations were approved for eliminating the so-called intermediate velocity .22 long rifle hollow-point and the intermediate velocity .22 short hollow-point, also the .45 auto rim full-metal jacket. The .22 long rifle hollow-point standard velocity is now loaded to the same velocity as the so-called intermediate velocity. The .22 short standard velocity hollow-point is loaded to 950 feet per second while the intermediate has 1000 feet per second and the high velocity has 1155. Obviously, these changes will have no adverse effect on the user, and they were therefore approved by your representative. As to the full-jacketed .45 auto rim, there is little call for this type, as the sales are almost entirely of the lead bulleted variety which is retained.

There was some discussion of the 6.5 mm. Mannlicher, but in view of the very low sales for it the majority of the Committee did not feel that they could recommend that it be made standard again, especially as it is regularly made by the Dominion Cartridge Co., of Montreal, Canada, and could be imported from them by any dealer who has enough call for this item to make such action worthwhile.—J. S. H.

GERMAN AMMUNITION IDENTIFICATION

I am writing for information on German 7.92 mm. military cartridges. Is the color identification code the same as for the Jap cartridges (described in the Dope Bag for July, 1947, page 52)? I have some with pink primers, green primers, some with dark blue primers, and also the kind with pink around the primer and a green band about 7/16 inch from the base of the cartridge. I would like to know the ballistics of these cartridges and if the primer is corrosive or non-corrosive.—MELVIN A. OBERTO, Rifle, Colorado.

Answer: The color code used by the Germans for the 7.92 mm. ammunition was quite different from that used by the Japs and is a little hard to give briefly because it was changed considerably early in the war. The latest code markings are determined by several factors, namely, the color of the lacquer used to waterproof the primer; the color of the bullet; and certain colored bands or marks on the cartridge case.

Waterproofing lacquer around the primer is green for the regular ball cartridge, for the lightweight or practice ball cartridge, and for the lightweight or practice tracer cartridge. It is blue for the ball cartridge with soft iron core and red for the armor-piercing cartridges.

The lightweight ball cartridge and the lightweight tracer cartridge have a green band around the cartridge case a short distance forward of the base.

Tracer cartridges have a black bullet tip. Hence the lightweight tracer mentioned above, has the green band and also the black tip bullet, whereas the lightweight ball has a green band and no special marking on the bullet.

The armor-piercing tracer has the red primer ring of the armor-piercing cartridges together with the black tip of the tracer.

There is a super armor-piercing cartridge with a tungsten carbide core. This has a black bullet besides the usual red lacquer indicating armor-piercing cartridges. There is also an armor-piercing incendiary cartridge containing phosphorous. This has a red stripe across the base.

Now here is one you must look out for. It is the so-called Observation Cartridge containing an explosive bullet with phosphorous in it, together with a high-explosive capsule. This has a black ring around the primer and a black colored bullet with a light tip. The labels on the boxes containing these cartridges are marked "B. Patr." meaning *Beobachtungs Patronen* or Observation Cartridge and are also marked *Gegen Stoss und Fall schützen* meaning Guard Against Shock or Dropping.

The standard bullet weight for the heavy ball cartridge is 197.5 grains and the velocity is 2575 feet per second. Up until about 1943 the Germans used a chlorate or corrosive primer called the Primer No. 88 and after that they used a noncorrosive primer known as Primer No. 30.

The German word for primer is *Zundhütschen* and, therefore, on the labels you will find either "Zdh. 88" or "Zdh. 30" depending on the type of primer mixture used. —J. S. H.

MORE ON THE 8 MM.

In an article on reloading the 8 mm. you mention reducing the standard .30-'06 load about 3 grains because of the reduced capacity of the case. However, published loads for the .30-'06 are usually based on the F.A. 70 primer and those of the 8 mm. are with modern noncorrosive, nonmercuric primers.

If the 3-grain reduction were made and the noncorrosive, nonmercuric primer used, would it be a stiffer load than the '06 by virtue of a smaller case? The other factor is a larger exit hole (8 mm. vs. '06).

I am not doubting your information at all. Due to various typographical errors which crop up in most articles of technical nature, one views with concern any and all such data.—C. CURTIS JAHNKE, Barrington, Illinois.

Answer: When we list loading data it is more-or-less general, but we do try to be on the conservative side. I think the larger bore of the 8 mm. would not offset any which is normally listed for the .30-'06. However, you must remember that not all loading data for the '06 is based on the chlorate primer. There are plenty of loads listed for the .30-'06 based on the noncorrosive type. If you will look in a handloading data book you will find loads for the 8 mm. which are almost up to those recommended for the .30-'06. After all, when we handload we must be cautious and start below the maximum recommended load. Usually these give better accuracy than the maximum suggested. —A. H. B.

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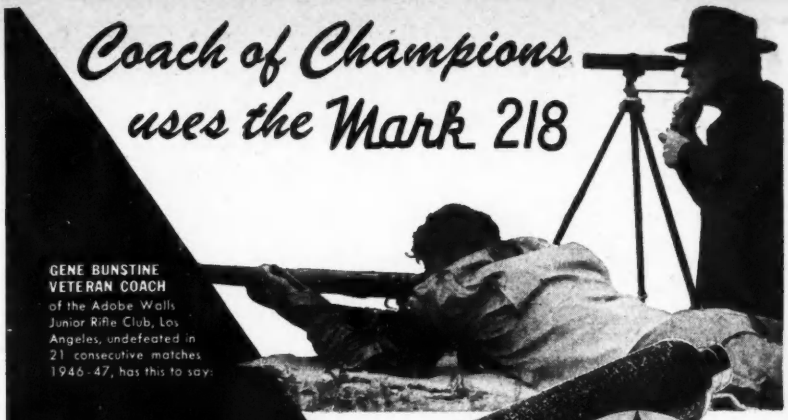

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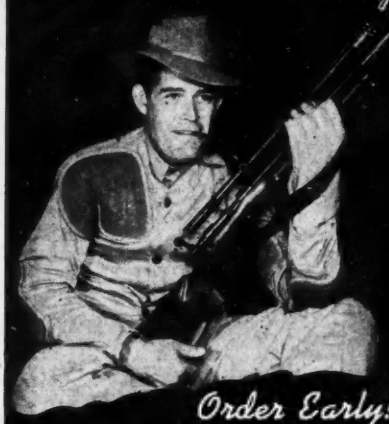

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7.7 AND 8.15 X 46 MM.

I have a German rifle and although the make is familiar, I am by no means familiar with the caliber, which is 7.7. John Oberlies of Dayton, Ohio, pushed a bullet through the barrel and we miked same to find it .319 inch. Pitch of barrel, or rifling is one turn in 14 inches. The indicated case length is 46½ mm. A .32-40 case will nearly fit in the chamber but appears to be too long. However, the rim of a .32-40 and .30-30 will fit perfectly in the rim recess at the head of chamber.

I am wondering if you can give me any information regarding the 7.7 mm. Perhaps my gun might be a 7.7 mm. Lee-Metford. At any rate, I am interested in converting it to an American cartridge. I was considering purchasing a .32-40 reaming tool and having the rifle rechambered. I can use the .32-40 tool on the three 8.15x46 German rifles that I have at present.—Major FRANK E. COTTLE, Dayton, Ohio.

Answer: I am quite certain you will find the 7.7 cartridge chamber almost identical to the 8.15x46. About the only difference will be a slightly smaller diameter at the neck, for a slightly smaller bullet than the 8.15.

I have measured a number of sulphur casts from rifles marked 7.7, and the diameter is almost always .314 to .315 inch.

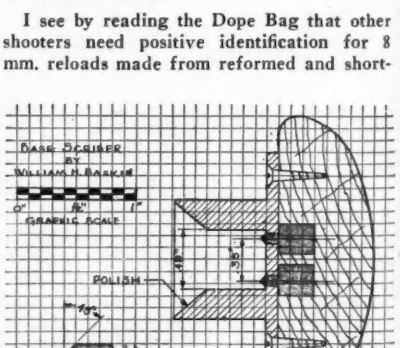
Actually I believe this is the same cartridge as the 8.15x46. In fact, I have one of the original German cartridges marked 8.15 and upon miking the bullet I find the diameter, with the exception of a very narrow band near the center, to measure .315 to 3.16 inch.

I have never had a good cast from a rifle marked 8.15, so I do not know what the groove diameter is. Inasmuch as you have them, compare a slug pushed through the 7.7 with one pushed through the 8.15 and you will probably find them very nearly alike. Therefore, the chamber could be lengthened to accept a .32-40 case, which is 52 mm. long.

Incidentally, that narrow band on the 8.15 bullet I mentioned is apparently used in seating it.—A. H. B.

BASE SCRIBER FOR CARTRIDGE IDENTIFICATION

I see by reading the Dope Bag that other shooters need positive identification for 8 mm. reloads made from reformed and shortened .30-'06 Service cases.



The idea is to make a simple tool out of hardwood and two small metal points with which to scribe an identifying circle on the

base of the case to distinguish between 8 mm. reloads and regular .30-'06 ammunition.

The polished chamber is ½ inch long, not including the guide cone. The scriber points are ground the same shape as a center punch. The points must be polished, as burrs will shave brass chips off the case head. To use, insert a cartridge base into the chamber and rotate it against the scriber points. Part of the old marking will be obliterated, making identification quite positive.

The whole body may be turned as a unit from hardwood and the points driven into previously drilled holes with a cavity point punch.—WILLIAM H. BASKIN, College Station, Texas.

GUNSMITH TRADE DOPE

The Sportsman's Shop at 2592 E. Colorado St., Pasadena, Calif., has been opened by Mahlon Frank. It caters to hunters, target shooters, and other sportsmen. Mr. Frank has a long shooting background, including coach and captain of one Olympic Pistol Team. At one time he was an arms company professional shooter and representative.

☆ ☆ ☆

A. C. Terry, Home Work Shop, 4438 Penn St., Kansas City, Mo., sent in several small, neat .22 caliber loading blocks which he makes. Both mahogany and white maple are used for them but there is more demand for those made out of maplewood. These blocks, which are without cover or lid, will hold 50 cartridges. They are 3¾ inches long, 2 inches wide, and almost ⅞ inch deep. The holes are clean cut to a uniform depth.

☆ ☆ ☆

Optical Coating Laboratory, operated by C. W. Galbreath, has moved to Route 1, Clinton, Maryland. The new shop is already set up to handle all types of optical repairs, specializing in foreign scopes.

Mr. Galbreath states his company has developed its own electronic process for coating lenses that are "spun into" their mountings, as in so many foreign instruments. An advantage claimed for this process is that it eliminates one of the hazards of lens coating: There is no danger of cracking because of heat being applied.

☆ ☆ ☆

Johnson Automatics Mfg. Co., Providence, Rhode Island, has a rather complete custom gun service. The barrels they can supply, anything from featherweight to heavy bull gun, have gained a reputation of being very well made. Johnson can supply specifications for the different size barrels they make. When ordering barrels from them, the action should be sent in for proper fitting and headspacing.

Reloading dies for several of the popular wildcats are also available.

☆ ☆ ☆

Polley Brothers of Dallas, Texas, writes Mr. G. F. Polley, have recently disposed of

UNIVERSAL Reloading Tools

Shown above, Model A tool Retail price

$47.50*

These superior tools are built to load any standard center-fire, metallic pistol or rifle cartridge with ease and accuracy. Both Universal Tool models, A and B, are identical in all parts except for differences in the turret heads. Model A, illustrated at left, holds three dies in its indexed rotating head, sufficient to reload any single caliber cartridge. Model B, illustrated at right, fills the need of the shooter who owns guns of several calibers and wishes to keep his dies set-up and handy for immediate use.

The indexed rotating head holds 12 dies, sufficient to reload 4 or more sizes of cartridges. At most, all that is necessary to change on the tool when changing from one caliber to another might be the primer rod, the shell holder and the setting of the powder measure.

All our products are guaranteed. Universal dies are interchangeable with the fine Pacific dies and can be used either in the Universal Tools or the Pacific.

*Prices shown on the above tools include one complete set of dies for any one caliber (not including powder measure adapter die, which is $2.50 additional). Discount to Dealers.

Prompt deliveries are assured on either Model A or Model B Tools and on Dies for the following calibers:

At left, Model B tool. Retail price

$55.00*

Patent U.S.A.

RIFLE DIES:

22 Hornet
22 K Hornet
22 Wilson Arrow
.218 Bee
R-2 Lovell
.219 Zipper
.219 Imp'd Zipper
22 Savage H.P.
.220 Swift
22-250 Varminter
22 Gebby Baby Var.
22 Gebby Jr. Var.
22 Gebby Sr. Var.
.240 Gebby Super Var.
.240 Gebby Super Bltd.
.25-20
.250-3000 Savage
25 Remington
.25-35
.256 Jap
.257 Roberts
6.5 mm.
.270 Winchester
7 mm.
.280 Ross
7 x 64 mm.
7 x 57 rim mm.
30-30 Winchester
30 M1Carb
30 Rem.
.300 Savage
.300 H.& H.Mag.
30-40 Krag
30-06
.303 British
32-20
32 Win. Spl.
32-40
8 mm.
8 x 57 rim mm.
9.3 x 62 mm.
.348 Win.
35 Rem.
.351 Win.
.375 Magnum
38-40
38-55
.401 Win.
.405
44-40
45-70
45-90
.256 Newton
30 Newton
35 Newton
.218 Bee CCC.
.219 Zipper CCC.
22 Swift CCC.
22 H.P. CCC.
22 Varminter CCC.
22-06 CCC.
22 Magnum CCC.
.250-3000 Sav. CCC.
.257 Roberts CCC.
25 Krag CCC.
25-06 CCC.
25 Magnum CCC.
.270 CCC.
.270 Magnum CCC.
7 mm.-.06 CCC.
7 mm Magnum CCC.
30-30 CCC.
30-40 CCC.
30-06 CCC.
.300 Magnum CCC.
.348 CCC.
.375 Magnum CCC.
.375-06 CCC.

PISTOL DIES:

32 S&W Long
32-20
38-S&W Spl.
.357 Magnum
38 S&W
38 ACP Super
7x63 Mauser
7x65 Luger
9 mm. Luger
38-40
44 S&W Spl.
44-40
45 ACP
45 Auto rim
45 Colt rev.

Multi-Calibre Bullet Puller

Fits Universal or Pacific Tool

The Fasig Standard bullet puller with one standard collet only, $9.00. Standard Collet sizes .224, .257, .264, .278, .284, .308, .320, .357, .375. Extra Collets, standard size, $1.50 each. Special Bullet Puller with one special collet only $10.00. Special Collet sizes .44 and .45. Extra Collets, special size, $2.00 each. Pullers made of hardened steel, collets tool steel. Fully Guaranteed. Disc. to Dlrs.

We have built up one of the finest precision gunsmithing machine shops in the country. We repair and rechamber guns of all types. In addition, we carry one of the West's largest stocks of new and used guns, hunting and target accessories, reloading components, books and manuals for the shooter. When you want something for guns—contact Hollywood!

HOLLYWOOD GUN SHOP

LYLE S. CORCORAN, *Owner*

6023 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif., Phone Hollywood 7266

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AND REPAIRING

Converting service rifles to sporters our specialty. Rebarreling, chambering, bluing, chrome and nickel plating. Repairing. All work fully guaranteed.

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molded in walnut and ebony for Colt Woodsman and Hi-Standard all models, $5.50; Colt and S & W $5.00 and up. Molded in Ivory 50c extra, for all models. At your dealer or direct. Send for illustrated circular. We are Originators of Plastic Gun Stocks. Please give 1st and 2nd choice on colors. .45 Colt Auto. now ready. Pat. App. for.

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Optical systems scientifically cleaned; all metal parts reblued; lenses adjusted for parallax. Any make or model (except Alaskan) including return postage and insurance. **$10.50**

OPTICAL COATING LABORATORY
Route #1 Clinton, Maryland

● MEDAL CASES ●

Genuine Walnut frame beautifully finished. Glass front. Black or Maroon velvet background. Three stock sizes. Priced at $3.50, $4.70 and $5.90, f.o.b. Neenah. Folder on request.

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Type Binder
Holds a Year of
The Rifleman

Here's a practical gift for any Rifleman subscriber. A handy way to keep copies for reference. Order now to insure early delivery.

$2.50
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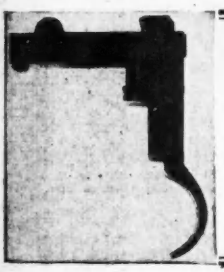


The MICRO-MOVEMENT Trigger
A new and superior trigger mechanism for Mausers. Springfields, Enfields, Rem. M 30s and 720s and Win. M 70s.
$15
Discount to Dealers
NO TAKE UP CREEP OR BACKLASH
Precision built of tool steel and designed for ease of installation and minimum removal of stock wood.
UNQUALIFIEDLY GUARANTEED
ALLEN TIMNEY, Gunsmith 518 Linden St., Bellflower, Calif.

The Sportsman's Choice
RANDALL MADE KNIVES
The Finest You Can Buy

HUNTING—FISHING—SKINNING
CARVING—FIGHTING
Match your favorite gun with one of these knives. 100% handmade in my own shop, of finest imported Swedish tool steel. Supplied with Heiser sheaths. Higher priced because they are highest quality obtainable.
W. D. Randall, Jr., Box 1988-R, Orlando, Florida
Send 3¢ for descriptive circular . . . 10¢ for Knife Manual . . . 35¢ for Knife Fighting Booklet.

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY
FECKER scopes, all sizes and types
Mercury Outboard Engines,
3.2 hp. $124.00, 7.5 hp. $197.00, 10 hp. $275.00.
One (Factory New) 513 S Remington, K2.5. Scope, Weaver Mounts.
One (Factory New) New Style Mod. 70, K2.5, Weaver Mounts.
Colt's Cal. 38 Super Automatic, $65.00
WISLER'S Gun Trunks (KIT 38) $15.50 to $32.50
O'DELL Scope Mounts for your revolver box lid, $4.50
Sam P. Simpson & Sons
2725 Center Street
Ingram, Allegheny County, Pa.

BARGAINS! 12 GA. ARMY SURPLUS SHOTGUNS IN GOOD CONDITION

Stevens pumps, Winchester Model 97, Remington Model 10, 20 in. barrel	$25.00
Winchester Model 12, 20 in. barrel	35.00
Weaver Choke on above guns add	13.75
Springfield singles full choke fair	10.00
Remington Auto. barrels 20 in. like new 12 ga	12.50
Savage Auto barrels 26&28 in. 12 ga. mod., good	12.50
Coleman 1 mantel lanterns, good	3.50
30 cal. 3 piece aluminum rods	.75
NEW Weaver scopes K2.5 $37.50, K4 $42.50	

ACE GUN WORKS 418 Mills St. El Paso, Tex.

GUNSMITHING
By Wurzer
Repair, alteration, restocking, etc., of modern arms. Write first for prices and delivery date.
WURZER and PETERSON
Formerly associated with R. F. Sedgley Arms Co.
5239 N. 5th St. Philadelphia, Pa.

their retail sporting goods store at 2714 Greenville Avenue but will continue gunsmithing and repair work at a new location, 2711 Inwood Road, Dallas 9, Texas. They are now open for business and ready to take care of any work, but do not have a retail outlet.

☆ ☆ ☆

Master Machine Works, P. O. Box 185, Brookville, Pennsylvania, has taken over the manufacture of the Jordan Multiple Reloading Press from the former makers, the Cameron Manufacturing Corporation of Emporium, Pennsylvania.

The new firm is owned and operated by William G. Masters who worked with Mr. Leon Jordan, the inventor of the tool, until Mr. Jordan sold out to the Cameron Corporation. From that time up to and including the time of sale, Mr. Masters served as Superintendent of the Machine Shop for Cameron.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. B. Smith, the Middlebury, Vermont, custom loader, tells us he will soon be ready to furnish good 6.5 mm. Mannlicher-Schoenauer ammunition. Special cases will be used along with Speer and other modern bullets. Special cases are being used also for making 9 mm. Luger ammunition.

Present owners of 6.5 mm. rifles will welcome this information, as this caliber has been dropped by all the commercial manufacturers of ammunition in this country.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Idaho Rifle Shop, Box 1, Grangeville, Idaho, announces a barrel-making business for gunsmiths. Heat treated to Brinell 265-275, the finished barrels are 26 inches long. Most all popular calibers, except .22, are being made. At additional cost, on special order, extra length and special twists may be obtained. Heavy barrels can be had at no additional cost.

☆ ☆ ☆

J. M. Cromleigh Sales, 84 W. Mildred Ave., Akron 10, Ohio, has just taken over the sales of the K-P Gun Pads. These slip-over recoil pad boots are made in two styles. The difference between them is the length of the part which slips over the butt of the stock. The 4-inch length seems adequate to hold the soft rubber pad in place and it should look better than the 8-inch length.

☆ ☆ ☆

The A.M.G. Products Co., 210 Helen Street, McKees Rocks, Pa., has sent in a sample gun-protecting bag of Polyethylene, a tough, waterproof, transparent, airtight plastic. These bags are impervious to acids, alkalines, oils, and grease. They will not become brittle even in weather as low as 70 degrees below zero F., nor will they become sticky in hot weather.

☆ ☆ ☆

The Southwest Cutlery & Manufacturing Co., Montebello, Calif., has taken over the manufacture and merchandising of Clear Sight telescope caps. These caps are made of flat optical glass ground and, in addition

BOB BROWNELL'S
GUNSMITH'S SPECIALS

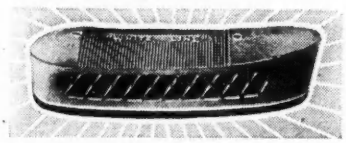
"Gunsmith distributors for Sheldon Lathes--See their ad elsewhere in the Rifleman"

How-to-Blue
SINGLE IMMERSION

We are continually testing new bluing salts as they are developed by various manufacturers and if better ones are ever developed, we will handle them during the years to come, not charging you boys for extensive advertising. We positively guarantee How-to-Blue to do MORE than any other advertised salts, basing our claim on unbiased tests sent to all salts manufacturers by a nationally known gunsmith recently.

10 lbs.	$4.00	6 lbs. cleaner	$1.00
20 lbs.	6.00	15 lbs. cleaner	2.00
50 lbs.	14.00	Gal. after oil	5.00

WHITE-LINE

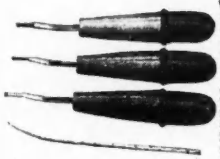


Yes, boys, we're distributors for the best of them all: WHITE-LINE. Get your orders in to us. We've got 'em in stock for IMMEDIATE DELIVERY. Retail price $3.25. Regular discounts on gunsmith orders.

BORE LITE

These Lucite rods actually "bend" the outside lite into the gun's barrel, giving you better actual inspection light than any unlighted mirror possibly can. Sets of four bars, for shotguns, large rifles, small rifles and .22s.$1.35

GUNSMITH CHECKERING TOOLS
"GUN LINE"

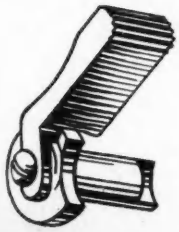


We tried out several different makes of checkering tools before we settled on "GUN LINE" products. To us they seem tops. Large, brightly colored handles, excellent workmanship . . . really precision tools. SUPER SET: 16, 18, 20 lines, V Edger, Bent needle file, instructions. Complete.....$7.00

STANDARD SET: One checkering tool, specify No. lines, 1 V Edger, Border VEX and Bent needle file.....$4.50

BRIGHT BORE

Again we have hit the jackpot. Distributors for MILL ROSE Brushes and Cleaning Rods. .22 rods.....$1.00; Combination rifle and pistol.....$1.25. .30 cal. rifle rods.....$1.00; Combination rifle and pistol.....$1.25. Shotgun rods, complete.....$1.50. And a FULL LINE of brushes and bore polishers. Full dealer discount to gunsmiths and clubs. Rush in your order.



THE BUEHLER LO MOUNT SAFETY

This is the safety that does the trick. Sturdy, low, attractive. Each.....$6.00. Three Buehler Safetys $10.80

Prest-O-Lite Kits:

5-in-1 outfit	$15.00
4-in-1 outfit	11.00
5-in-1 precision kit	20.50
4-in-1 precision kit	16.50

We now have a full assortment fillister head screws in all popular threads at reasonable prices. Order by box of a gross per size. All are long enough to be cut to what size you need.

No. 28 Hi-Speed drills, dozen	$ 1.90
No. 31 Hi-Speed drills, dozen	2.04
No. 6 x 48 taps, per half dozen	2.00
No. 6 x 48 dies, 5/8" button	1.00
No. 8 x 40 dies, 5/8" button	1.00
No. 8 x 40 taps, per half dozen	2.50
Complete Machine Screw Tap and Die Sets from $14.65 to	23.50

Full assortment, Taps & Dies from #0 to 14, American threads at standard prices.

DRILL SETS
These are NEW stock, Cleveland Cle-Fordge

Wire Gauge	
#1 to 60, carbon	$ 7.50
#1 to 60, Hi-Speed	12.85
Stand for above sizes	2.50
Letter Sizes	
A-Z, carbon	7.50
A-Z, Hi-Speed	15.50
Stand for above sizes	2.50
Millimeter	
1 MM to 6.5 MM by .1 MM	7.50
Container for above	1.00
Wilton Tap Extractors (save the cussing)	
Broken taps up to #10 @	1.50
No. 10 up to 9-32" @	1.55
(You want the above for #8 & #6)	
Set of SIX Barron Router Bits	9.50
(These are Hi-Speed, ideal for stock work.)	
Hi-Speed End Mills	
Cleveland double end, 4 lip 1/4" & 1/8" @	$2.75
1/4" Mo-Max HS Lathe tool bits, ea.	.26
per dozen	2.90
E-Z outs for busted drills	
Get yourself a set of four	2.00
6 1/2" Knurled needle files	
Three square, ea. .35 Per dozen	3.50
Three square bent, ea. .40 Per dozen	4.00
"V" blocks	
Best precision, set of two, one clamp	3.45
Miscellaneous	
Schmidt barrel rasps, complete	3.50
1/8" DIAMOND dressing tool	3.50

We are distributors for Sheldon Lathes, Electric Furnaces, Wade Lathes, Logan Shapers, Armour Mills, Globe Milling Attachments, American Swiss files, Millers Falls tools, etc. . . . see our catalogue.

Power Buffing Machines. 36" between centers, pedestal.

1 HP 3 phase. Immediate Delivery $150.00

Gunsmith's Pyralin Tipped Mallets with screw in, changeable tips.

3/4" mallet, 4 oz.	$1.05
1" mallet, 6 oz.	1.47
1 1/4" mallet, 11 oz.	2.00

A 25% discount applies to $10.00 purchases of any of the following:

Felt wheels	
6" x 1"	4.00
8" x 1" soft	5.00
8" x 1" medium	6.00
Loose Muslin Wheels: 6" .50; 8"	.80
Stitched Muslin Wheels: 6" .55; 8"	.85
Polish-O-Ray, No. 140, No. 240, No. 400, in 2 lb. tubes.. $1.00 No. 555, 3 lbs.	$1.50

WILTON GUNSMITH VISES

Wilton vises, 2 inch $11.50
Same in 3 inch 14.95
Other sizes in stock for direct delivery.

(Wilton vises carry a 5 year guarantee. They are the best to be had.)

DOVE TAIL BANDS

Inside diameter 25/32"
Thick sturdy walls
Strong base lug

We had these bands made heavy enough to be durable, trustworthy, something to be proud of. They can be peened larger and then reamed larger. Each one guaranteed. Each.... $3.50
Three 6.35

KING KUT CARVING SET

This excellent set of tools is ideal for the fine finishing cuts on rifle work. Priced at only $10.00, postpaid.

THE FAMOUS VIBRO-TOOL

For barrel matting, engraving, wood working, etc. Price $16.50, postpaid.

SPECIAL
NORTON HARD ARKANSAS STONES

These stones measure about 3 1/2" long, full dimensions—the standard action and tool stone.

Square	$0.60	Knife	$1.05
Triangle	0.75	Point	1.35
Round	0.90	Diamond	1.35
Flat	1.15	Oval	1.15
Bevel	$0.75		

Or the full set of eight stones $7.30
(Value, if bought individually.....$9.05)

CARBORUNDUM
Aloxite Cloth in 50 yd. Rolls

	1" Width	1 1/2" Width
Grit 100	$2.90	$4.05
Grit 150	2.90	4.05
Grit 120	2.90	4.05
Grit 240	2.90	

(NOTICE: *A discount of 30% can be deducted by gunsmiths and home hobbyists on orders for two rolls or more of Carborundum Aloxite Cloth*)

TERMS

All orders F.O.B. Montezuma, Iowa
For Parcel Post Include Postage
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Complete GUNSMITH'S MART CATALOG and BUYING GUIDE. Over 150 pages. Thousands of wanted items. Everything you need from one dependable source. Lowest prices. Fast service. Send $1.00 for your copy. Price refunded with your first $10.00 purchase.

THE GUNSMITH'S MART
BROWNELL INDUSTRIES, INC.
MONTEZUMA, IOWA

SPORTSCOPE

Outperforms Most Binoculars Two to One! Try It, and See!

HALF THE WEIGHT . . .

9 x 50

$77 incl. case

NO EXCISE TAX

. . . HALF THE PRICE

of equivalent binoculars

!

SPORTSCOPE, the amazing new 9x50 monocular-type field glass, is powerful enough for target spotting yet has ample field for hunting and general utility. Weighs but 19 oz. and is only 9 inches long. Can be carried with ammunition in pistol case, attached to belt, or worn over shoulder. Spun aluminum or black finish. As advertised in Fortune and Esquire...$77 incl. saddle leather case—*no excise tax.* At dealers or Sportscope, 2753 Lombard Street, San Francisco 23, California.

10-DAY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE

"PACIFIC" RELOADING TOOL

The Leader

More than 12,000 in use. You must have something good when you have that many satisfied customers. You too will be a "Pacific" booster as soon as you have loaded a hundred shells.

Super Reloading Tool.....$35.75
Standard Reloading Tool.....28.75

(Same dies and attachments are used on both tools)

"Pacific" Powder Scale **$8.50**
"Pacific" Powder Measure **$7.00**

PACIFIC GUN SIGHT CO.
353 Hayes St., San Francisco (2), California

PACIFIC GUN SIGHT CO.

GUNS & SCOPES

Win. 52 H.B.	$89.15
Win. 52 S.B.	79.50
Win. 75	$45.05 to 53.50
Win. 69	$20.60 to 35.80

Target and hunting scopes, all makes & sizes
PACIFIC TOOLS ..... $28.75 to $35.75
COMPLETE STOCK OF SHOOTERS SUPPLIES

DON'S SPORTING GOODS
successor to
WAL-DON SPORTING GOODS
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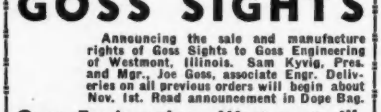
LONE STAR DUST CAPS

Hand made: Guaranteed ten years



Look For The Star

If your dealer can not supply you send check for $1.50. Dealers write for discount.

M. L. SMITH, Rt. No. 3, Bryan, Texas

COMPLETE CUSTOM RIFLE REBUILDING

on your action. Bolt alterations $10.00. Rebarreling in .270, .257, .30-'06 Cal. $35.00. Custom stocks to your dimensions, $45.00 up. Scope and sight mounting.

RAYMOND C. HOLTZ R.D. No. 1, Box 98 Patton, Pa.

GOSS SIGHTS

Announcing the sale and manufacture rights of Goss Sights to Goss Engineering of Westmont, Illinois. Sam Kyvig, Pres. and Mgr., Joe Goss, associate Engr. Deliveries on all previous orders will begin about Nov. 1st. Read announcement in Dope Bag.

Goss Engineering, Westmont, Ill.

to protecting scope lenses against damage and moisture, can be left on the rifle for a hurried or unexpected shot. One advantage of using them is the protection provided to coated lenses.

BOOK REVIEWS

ENGLISH GUNS AND RIFLES

By J. N. George

One of the few books published in this country in the last decade which immediately gained the stamp of complete authenticity in treating of ancient firearms was *English Pistols and Revolvers,* by Britisher J. N. George. Released in 1938, George's first effort drew only minor criticism for its lack of an index and occasional postage-stamp-size illustrations. Now, in the long-awaited companion volume, *English Guns and Rifles,* even these details have been corrected.

As good as are both books, neither should be expected to stand alone. Together they form, in this reviewer's opinion, the finest study of one country's firearms which has been published to date. Even in the field of American firearms, which dozens of writers have discussed in the last few years, no book has appeared which shows the knowledge and intimacy with the subject which George displays in describing British small arms. In subject matter, both books cover the period from the reign of Henry VIII to the advent of the breech-loader. In thoroughness, they would be hard to improve upon. George's knowledge of the literature of the period, his ability to fit firearms into the story of a nation's development, lend both works a color and breadth which far too many "collector's books" lack entirely.

In at least one chapter of *English Guns and Rifles* American muzzle-loader fans will take serious issue with George when he states that the breech-loading Ferguson rifle of King's Mountain fame was "actually better, as regarded . . . its accuracy at long distance . . . than even the best of the American rifles of its day." Several years ago, in test-firing an original Ferguson rifle (now in the King's Mountain Museum) the best five-shot group we could get was slightly under four inches *at 25 yards!*

One's conscience almost hurts at calling attention to this minor point. George's work stands head and shoulders above the majority of books on early firearms. Its weakness, if any, lies not in George's lack of knowledge of the firearms of what was to him an alien country, but in the failure of our collectors and writers to treat the weapons of their own country in as adequate a manner. It is high time someone wrote as good a book on the firearms of the United States.

Fortunately George's task of describing early English firearms is complete in these two volumes. There can be no more. He was killed in action in North Africa, September 3, 1942, by an enemy sniper.—J. S.

(English Guns and Rifles, by J. N. George. 344 pages, 23 plates. Small Arms Technical Publishing Company, Plantersville 7, N. C. $7.50)

THE ARMS CHEST

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

1. Rate: 20 cents per word including name and address—minimum charge $3.00. All advertisements must be accompanied by remittance, made payable to "National Rifle Association"—1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C.

2. Closing Date: All advertisements must be received by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: the 1st of November for the December issue. Ads *received* after the 1st of November *and not later than the 1st of December* will be inserted in the January issue.)

3. Who May Advertise: Any individual or firm whose advertisements and methods of doing business meet our requirements may advertise their goods or services in the ARMS CHEST.

4. All Orders Subject to These Conditions: WE reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

5. Transactions Based on Good Faith: ARMS CHEST transactions are based on good faith and mutual satisfaction. Deliberate misrepresentation, disregard of usual business ethics or the attempt to circumvent these general requirements, when brought to our attention, will result in refusal of further advertising and might result in disbarment from the NRA in the case of members.

6. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Box number or blind ads will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

7. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters likewise are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith; H. B., meaning heavy barrel; HP., meaning high-power). Hyphenated words are counted as two words (example: 20-gauge, pearl-handled no-slip).

8. Responsibility for Illegible Copy: Type or print advertisements plainly, as we can not be responsible for errors due to illegible writing.

9. Firearms for Sale or Trade Must Be Properly Described: The *condition* of every gun (including essential parts) advertised for sale or trade, *must* be specified according to *NRA standards*, as follows: PERFECT—meaning factory condition; EXCELLENT—meaning new condition, implying negligible amount of use; VERY GOOD—meaning practically new condition; implying little use, with no appreciable bore wear and only minor surface scratches or wear; GOOD—meaning moderate use with some finish worn off, only moderate bore wear, with no pits and nothing worse than a little roughness in the bore; FAIR—meaning no parts missing necessary to use of gun, reasonable wear inside and out, nothing worse than minor pits in steel or stock, gun sufficiently accurate for hunting. POOR—meaning marred appearance and pitted or badly worn bore.

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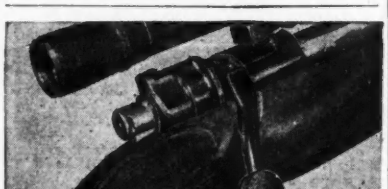

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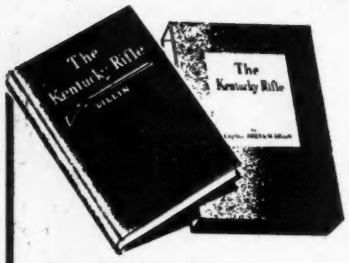

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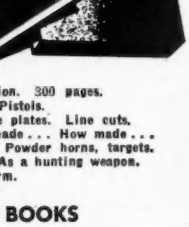

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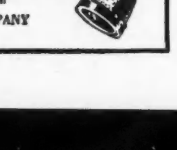

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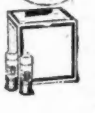

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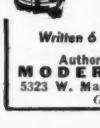

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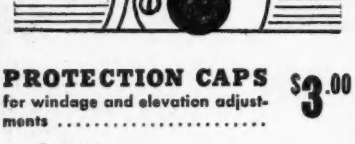

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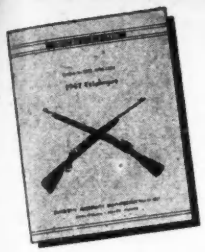

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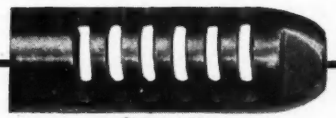

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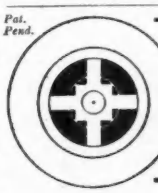

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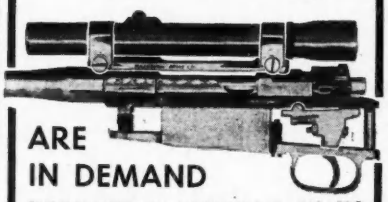

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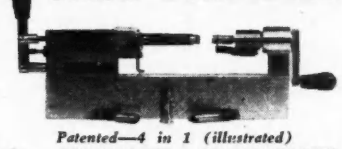

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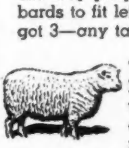

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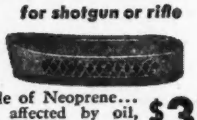

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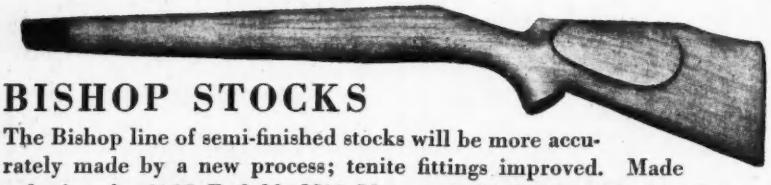

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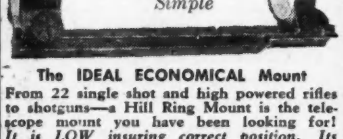

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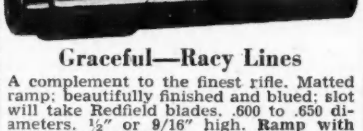

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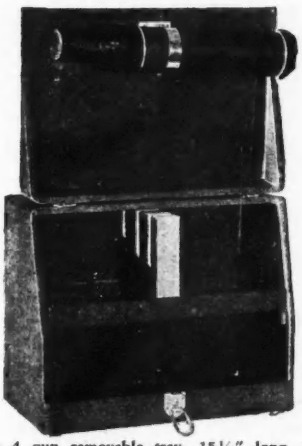

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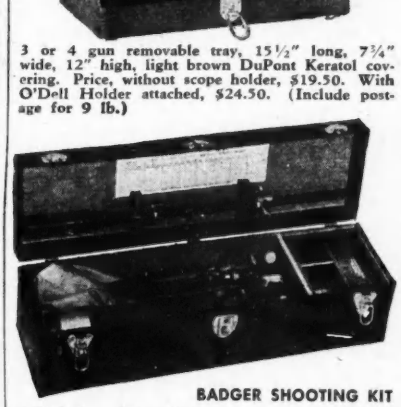

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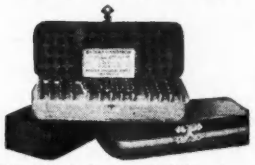

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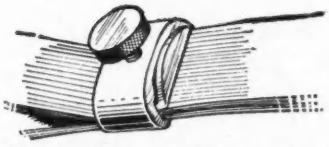

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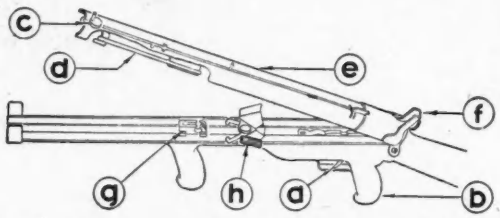

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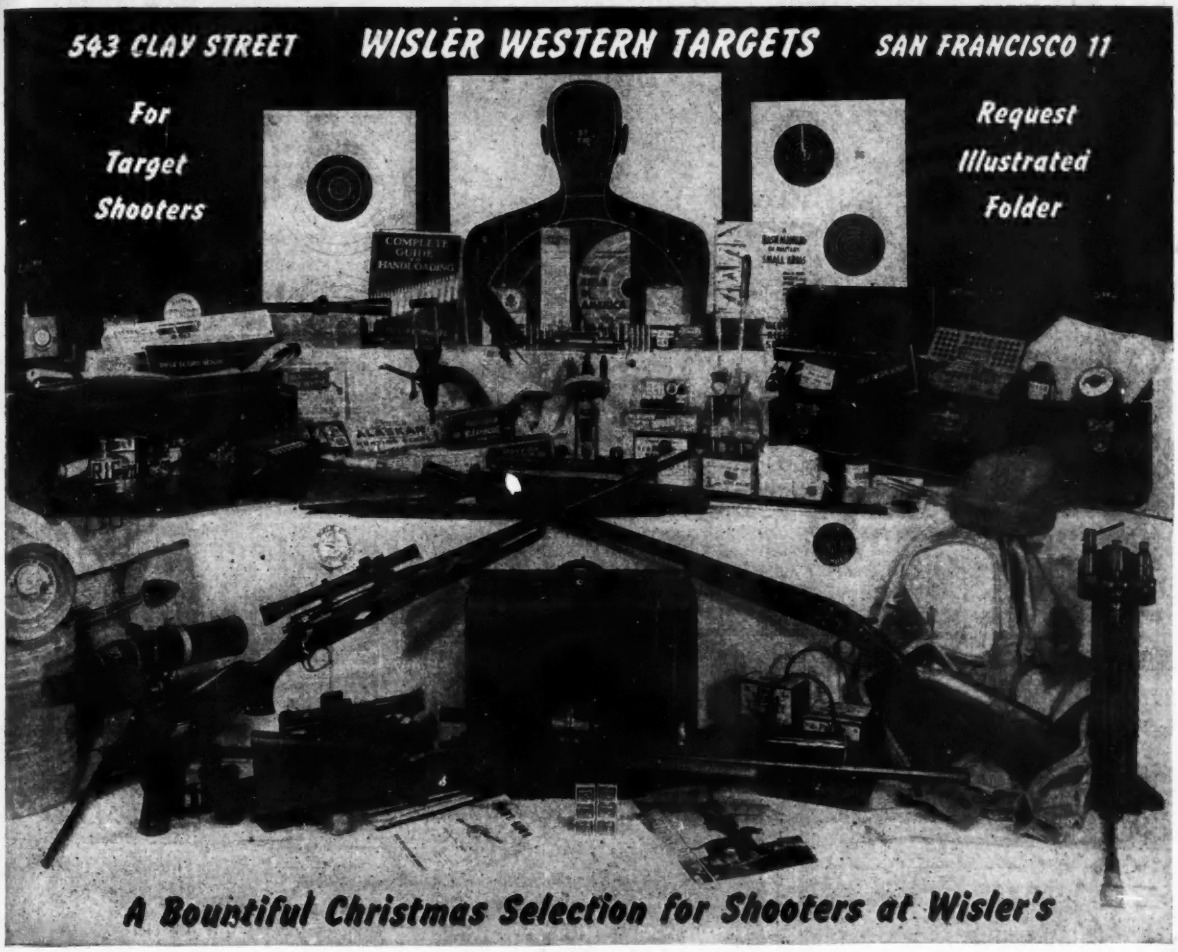

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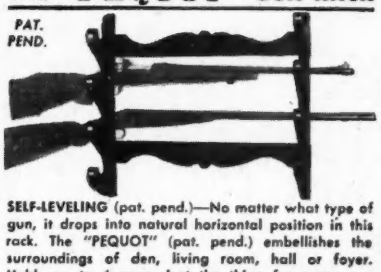

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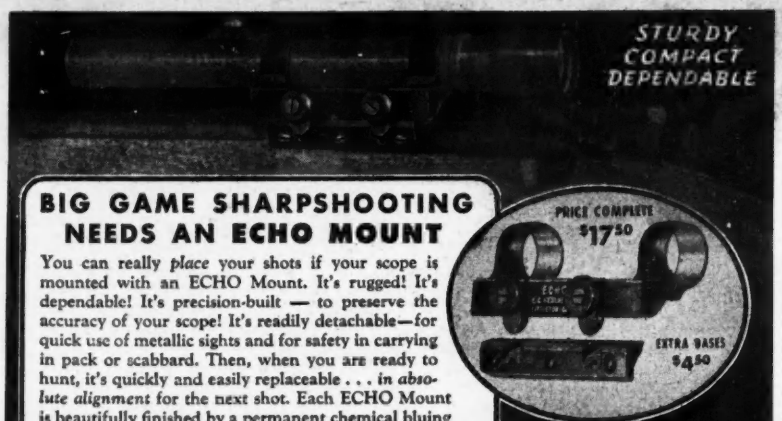

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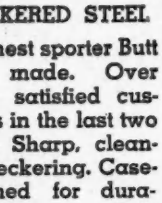

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REMINGTON 37 WITH REMINGTON REAR, Redfield front, aluminum pistol grip. This rifle is extremely accurate, is excellent in and good out. Lyman 12 power Super Targetspot, excellent. NRA sling, sling pad and keeper, fair. Bausch & Lomb 20 power spotting scope, excellent. Loder-Wilson scope stand with extensions for four positions, good. 10X rifle coat size 42, fair. Crofts glove, good. Parker Hale cleaning rod, excellent. Beautiful quarter sawed oak hand-made case that carries everything including rifle. Cartridge box, scoring plug, Hoppes. Fiendoil. Entire lot $218.00. W. E. Danner, 2325 No. 11th St., Terre Haute, Indiana.

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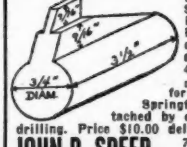

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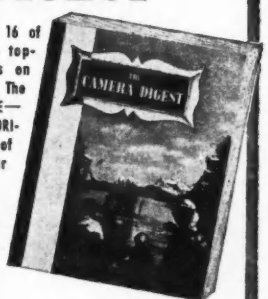

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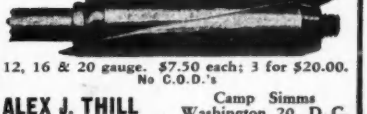

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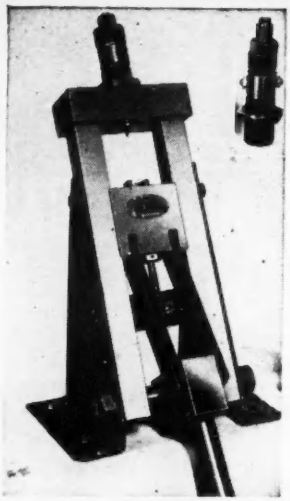

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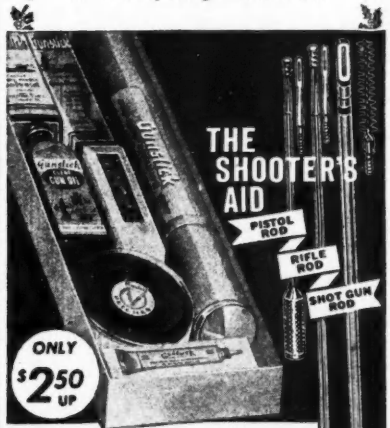

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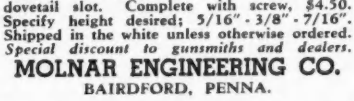

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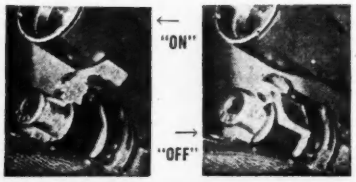

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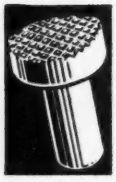

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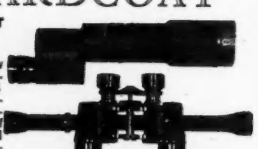

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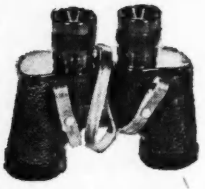

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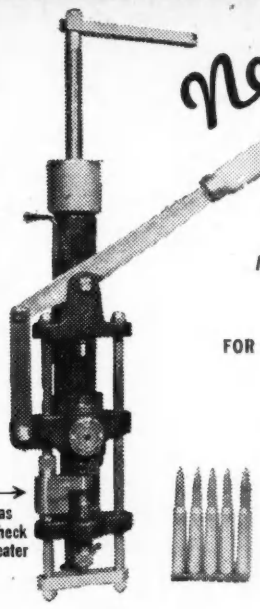

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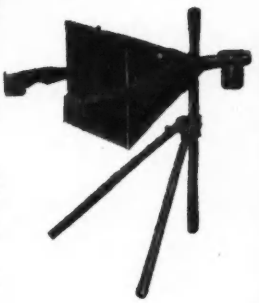

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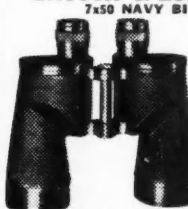

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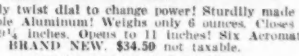

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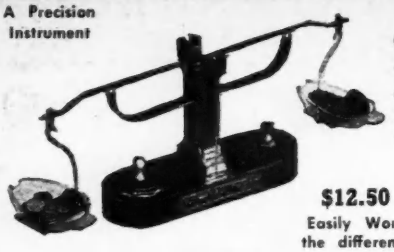

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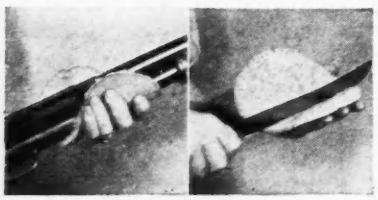

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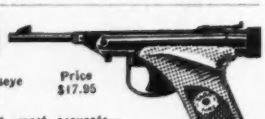

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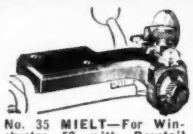

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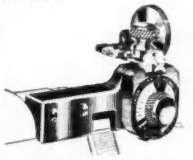

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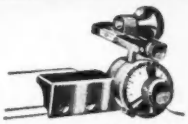

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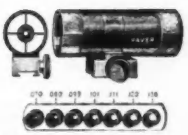

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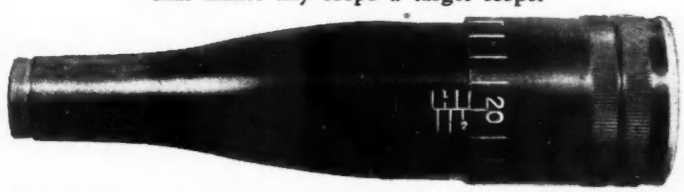

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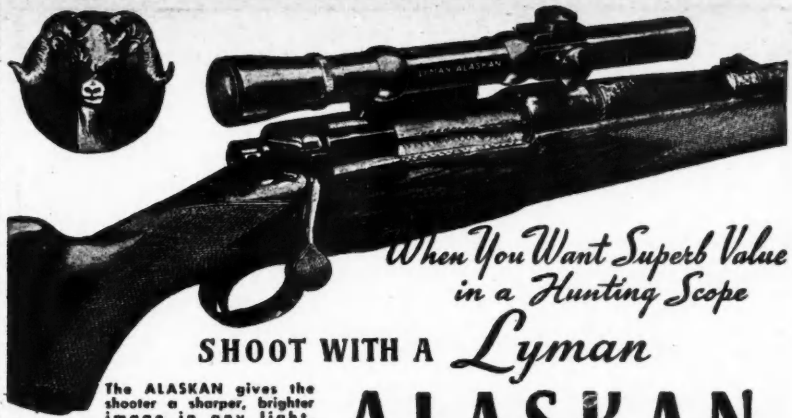

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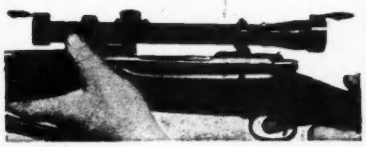

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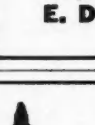

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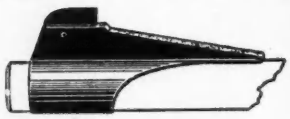

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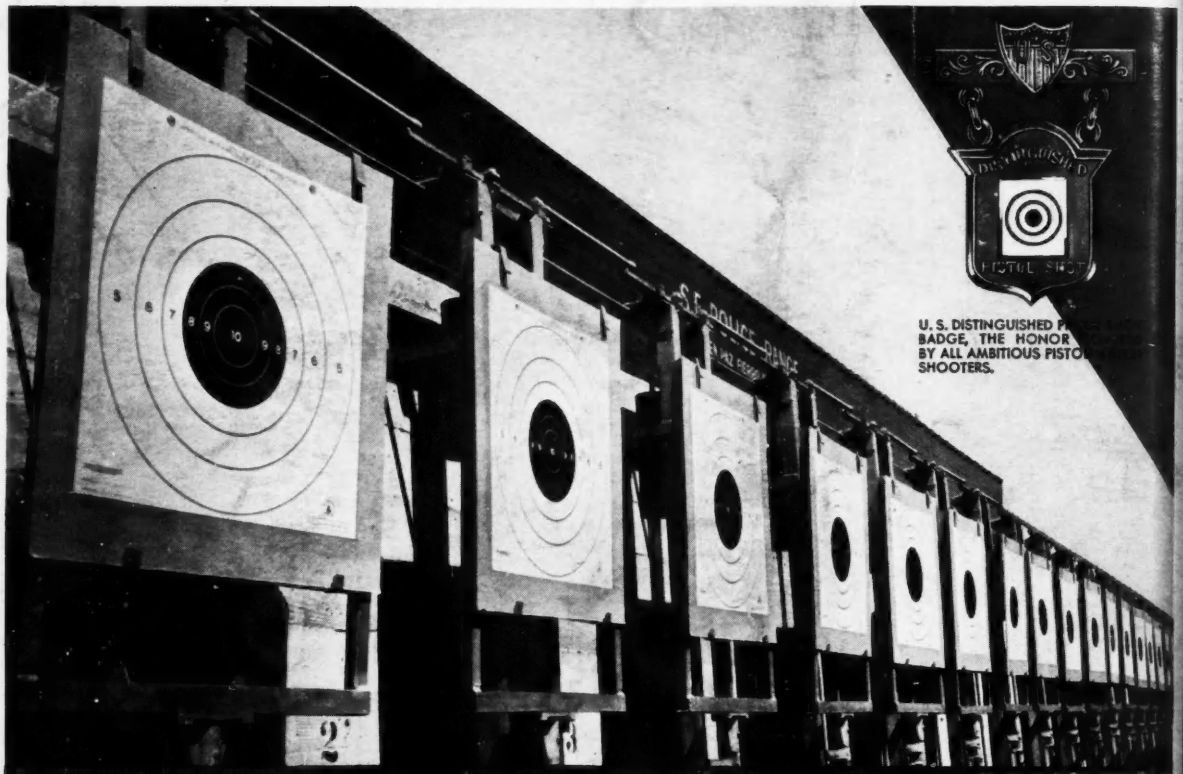

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